

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

In the Name of Public Health, TB Control —

U.S.A. Quarantines PWAs

by Jeff Fast

Quarantining people with AIDS who also have tuberculosis has become a common — if virtually unreported — practice in the United States. So far, just since 1990, at least 510 PWAs have been isolated in seven states. And even more ominously, members of

the religious right have already called for the incarceration of every HIV-positive person in the country, ostensibly as a way to contain TB.

The states of New York, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Washington, Indiana, Nevada, and Missouri have all started quarantining some PWAs with TB. Civil rights activists

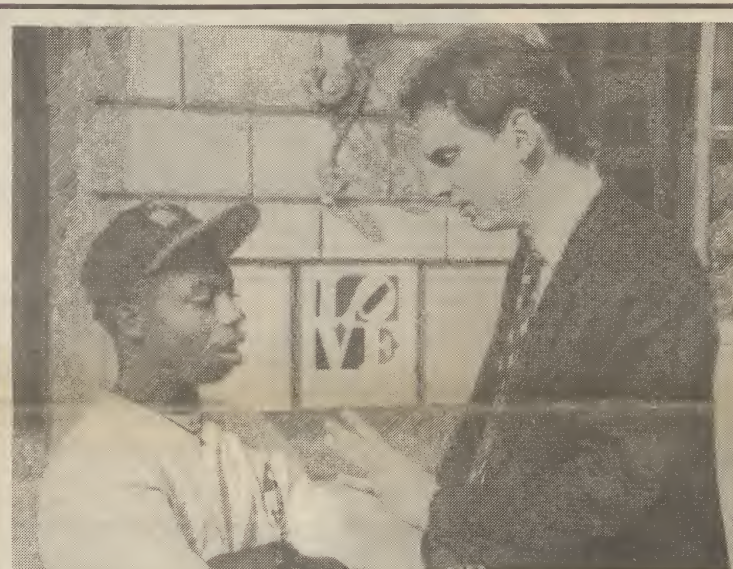
have called the expanding practice dangerous — and racist as well, since more than half of those currently under quarantine are black.

A federal law enacted during the 1934 polio epidemic allows for people with infectious diseases to be quarantined without a legal hearing — or even the right to an attorney.

Since 1990, more than 110 TB patients have been quarantined in New York City, and at least 10 percent of all PWAs in Oklahoma and Nevada have been institutionalized for allegedly failing to meet TB control requirements. Employees of the TB control clinic in San Francisco have said there are currently no intentions of quarantining in the city.

Tuberculosis is an infectious pulmonary disease, passed from person to person in airborne droplets produced by sneezing, coughing, and breathing. It attacks the lungs, causing scarring, bleeding, and often a collection of fluid

(Continued on page 16)



Schindler press conference

Petty Officer Third Class Keith Sims (left) speaks with his attorney Steve Collier at a March 10 press conference held in San Francisco to draw attention to the Navy's investigation of sailor Allen Schindler's murder. See story on page 5.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

'Justice' Department Appeals Meinhold Ruling

by David O'Connor

The U.S. Department of Justice has filed an appeal in the case of gay Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, calling it a necessary step to maintain the gay-ban compromise reached by President Clinton and military leaders earlier this year.

The Justice Department said its motion, filed last week in the U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco, will not affect the status of Meinhold, who was reinstated by court order in January after the Navy discharged him for declaring his is gay on national television.

On January 29, Judge Terry Hatter of the Central District

Court of California ordered Meinhold reinstated and declared the military's ban on lesbians and gays unconstitutional. Hatter also ordered the Department of Defense to quit "discharging or denying enlistment to any person based on sexual orientation in the absence of sexual conduct which interferes with the military mission of the armed forces of the United States."

The Justice Department's new motion would limit the portion of Hatter's ruling that bars the Defense Department from discharging other personnel based on their sexual orientation.

The same day Hatter made his ruling, President Clinton

announced the terms of a compromise under which a plan for lifting the ban would be prepared by July 15.

Clinton also announced his support of the Meinhold decision, saying it reinforced his stand on ending the military ban.

Chai Feldblum of the Campaign for Military Service, a lesbian and gay lobbying group opposed to the ban, said the compromise is crucial to opening the armed forces to gays. Without it, she said, a Senate vote would have made the anti-gay policy federal law.

"We as a gay community bought a precious six months

(Continued on page 24)

Shanti's in Big Trouble

by Jeff Fast

Shanti Project, San Francisco's well-known AIDS service provider, has mismanaged \$2.59 million worth of government housing contracts since June 1991, a city health department investigation disclosed this week. In fact, it was revealed Shanti's bookkeeping is so disorganized that an accurate determination of its finances for the past 21 months is unlikely to ever occur.

Among the investigation's most serious findings is that Shanti Project billed the health department for housing that didn't exist or wasn't in use. Legally, Shanti is now required to reimburse the city, acknowledged Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the Health Department's AIDS Office, but the amount of money owed is still unclear.

Documents inspected by the *Bay Area Reporter* revealed that Shanti:

- Required residents of its housing program to pay 25 percent of their incomes as rent. It is unclear what happened to this revenue;
- Cannot determine what

equipment was purchased with government funds or private funds, so the city has no idea what property it rightfully owns;

- Dumped all money into general funds instead of creating separate bank accounts for each taxpayer-funded program. Now it is unable to provide a list of its bank accounts;
- Misreported the amount it spent for salaries on tax forms;
- Subcontracted the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to provide \$20,055 worth of services, for which it billed the health department \$28,000;
- Received a \$160,000 Ryan White Care Act grant for the Housing Resource Network that it diverted into other programs in violation of city, state and government regulation;
- Was given a \$15,000 contract for a publicity campaign when no evidence of such a campaign exists; and
- Charged the health department \$508 a month more rent than it spent for gay Latino youth housing, another

(Continued on page 4)

"Queer Summit" Planned

by Dennis Conkin

A coalition of groups — including the San Francisco chapter of National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Mobilization Against AIDS, ACT UP East Bay, and other groups — will hold a "Queer Summit" on March 13 at the First Unitarian Church, located at 1187 Franklin Street in San Francisco.

From 10 a.m. — noon, March On Washington activists will hold a training about lobbying and civil disobedience in preparation for next month's mobilization in the District of Columbia.

From 12:30 to 5 p.m., the summit will hear from representatives of the political and community groups who have signed up to make presentations.

Among the topics to be discussed at the get-together will be the creation of a local lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender agenda for the coming year. Among the politicians who are expected to attend and speak are Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, recently nominated to a post in the Clinton administration, former Supervisor and current professor Harry Britt, former San Mateo County Supervisor Tom Nolan, Supervisor Carole Migden, San Francisco Board of Education President Tom Ammann, and BOE member Angie Fa.

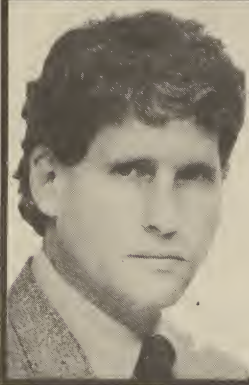
The meeting is free to the general public. ▼

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First of Two Sections

Bankruptcy



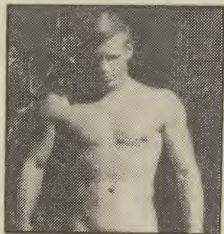
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Community News

GLOE Sponsors Housing Forum

by Dennis Conkin

Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) and Innovative Housing, a nonprofit housing group, are sponsoring a two-hour forum on housing for older lesbians and gay men on March 27, starting at 10 a.m.

The workshop, which will be held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street, will target low- and fixed-income mid-life and senior lesbians and gay men, according to GLOE spokesman George Roosen.

"It's the first shared housing program for lesbian and gay men. The object is to get seniors out of unsafe neighborhoods and to use the existing housing stock," Roosen told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The program is developed by Innovative Housing, which has developed and managed similar shared housing programs for other groups such as low income single women with children.

"They take houses of moderate size that in the past were single family residences, three and four bedroom places, and turn them into shared housing," Roosen said.

The first "intergenerational" house the group will develop for lesbians and gays has a capacity of seven people, Roosen said. Innovative Housing will secure the property from a landlord, manage the site, and pay deposits and other move-in fees.

The housing project, which sponsors intend to expand beyond one house, will be a boon to low-income mid-life gay seniors who are experiencing isolation or live in neighborhoods where they



Members of the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders Men's Discovery Group. Their bimonthly meetings cover many topics, including older and younger gay men in relationships and dating. George Brimisa (center) receives a kiss from one of their younger speakers.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

are concerned for their safety, such as the Tenderloin and Polk Gulch districts, Roosen said.

"We're terribly excited about the project. You know, a lot of seniors come to the city from places where they were part of the middle class

but became poor here," he told the *B.A.R.* "And, because of economic realities, the housing options of many lesbians and gays are limited."

For more information about the workshop, contact GLOE at 626-7000. ▼

The SF Human Rights Commission Wants You

by Dennis Conkin

The Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is now recruiting new members.

One of the five standing committees of the Commission, the advisory committee is mandated by law to identify and address issues and concerns of the lesbian and gay community in San Francisco, to advise the 11-member Commission, and to combat sexual orientation and HIV-based discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

Established in 1964 by city ordinance, the Commission advocates for human and civil rights, investigates and mediates discrimination complaints, and provides referrals to other government agencies as necessary.

The HRC also promotes and certifies minority, women, and locally owned business in city contracting, resolves community disputes, and provides information and technical assistance to human rights and social service

groups.

The Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Advisory Committee works closely with the HRC's Lesbian/Gay and HIV/Unit, which is responsible for enforcing the city's sexual orientation and AIDS discrimination ordinances. Sexual orientation discrimination was made illegal by city ordinance in 1978. HIV/AIDS discrimination was made illegal by city ordinance in 1988.

Last year, that unit investigated more than 125 cases of anti-gay and HIV discrimination, according to a report prepared by unit staffers Larry Brinken and Cynthia Goldstein.

Since its inception, the advisory committee has assisted the Commission in conducting public hearings on police community relations, the closure of the bathhouses, racial discrimination in the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities, HIV discrimination, hate violence, and domestic partnership.

"As we search for new members, we are always mindful of our commitment to ensuring a diverse and ac-

tive membership," said HRC Commission Jeanette Lazam, the committee's chair.

Lazam, a lesbian Filipina activist who is the client services manager for the AIDS Emergency Fund, was appointed to the Commission last month by Mayor Frank Jordan. Commissioner Lawrence Wong, a gay man active in the Harvey Milk Club and Asian Pacific Democratic Club, also a Jordan appointment, serves as vice-chair.

Applicants must be able to make a firm commitment to attend advisory commission meetings on the third Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m.

The Committee seeks members knowledgeable and active in AIDS/HIV, anti-violence, disability, education, health, youth, civil rights, and women's issues.

Interested persons must send a letter and/or resume detailing their community involvement by March 19 to the Lesbian/Gay Bisexual Advisory Committee of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission at 25 Van Ness Street, San Francisco 94102-9033. ▼

Rural Gay Voters Sought By New Political Action Group

by Dennis Conkin

Gay and lesbian voters in non-urban Congressional Districts throughout California have more clout with their senators and representatives than they may realize, says Drew Siegel, the founder of the California League of Gay Voters. But having that clout isn't enough, Siegel told the *Bay Area Reporter*; gay voters need to know how to use it.

"I think we're doing really well in making our voices heard in the Bay Area and San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. My idea is to start reaching out to gay voters in areas such as the North Bay, more rural areas in California," Siegel said.

"People need to know what to do to make their voices heard, what to say when they write a letter to their congressional representative, and what to ask for."

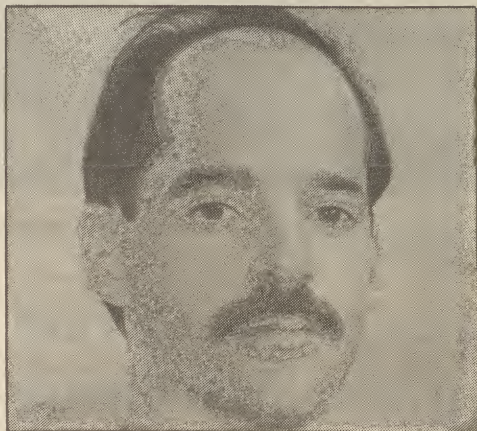
CLGV hopes to reach those voters often ignored by national groups, such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, that urge lesbians and gays to call or write their elected officials: those organizations usually focus on urban gays who end up "uselessly preaching to the choir" by contacting legislators that already support the gay rights agenda.

In reaching out to lesbian and gay voters not targeted by the larger national organizations, Siegel's group hopes to address the lack of lobbying efforts by conservative Democrats or Republicans in non-urban areas.

"I just haven't seen a push by the big groups to get members in rural areas — and it's really needed," Siegel told the *B.A.R.*

Even a few letters can have an impact on a congressional representative's vote, he said — and lesbian and gay voters have a right to demand meetings with their representatives on issues that are important to them.

For more information about the California League of Gay Voters, write 1420 Clayton Street, No. 203, or contact (415) 552-8382. ▼



Drew Siegel

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

National Briefs

Long Beach Changes "Family" Definition

What's in a name? According to the Long Beach City Council, more than what has been covered in their city policy. So on March 3 the Council voted 6-3 to approve a "statement on family" that expands the current definition of "family" to include any group of people who provide physical and emotional support. While no changes are imminent, the way may now be cleared for lesbian and gay partners and unmarried couples to receive benefits usually reserved for "traditional" families — such as hospital visitation rights.

— Karen Ocamb

I Want My MTM

Remember Mary Tyler Moore's funny MTM logo — the little cat meow take-off on the MGM tiger roar? Well, brace yourselves. That cat will soon be catterwalling in the hands of the Christian Coalition. And that means that Pat Robertson's recent takeover of MTM Entertainment in Studio City makes him the producer of Clinton friends Linda Bloodworth-Thomason and husband Harry Thomason's Arkansas-based CBS sitcom *Evening Shade* — which, you remember, Hillary Rodham Clinton named.

Robertson is no fan of President Clinton's — he has said Clinton was out to "destroy the traditional family." But son Tim Robertson, who runs the family's International Family Entertainment, says politics won't interfere with business. And, according to the *Los Angeles Times*, he considers Bloodworth-Thomason "one of the greats in the business." Purr.

— Karen Ocamb



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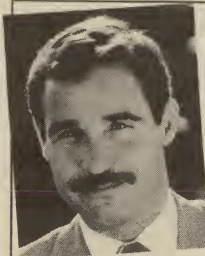


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Community News



The Midnight Sun bar was closed early for overcrowding February 27.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

Midnight Sun All Fired Up After SFFD Closure

by Dennis Conkin

The owner of the Midnight Sun, a popular Castro area gay bar, has complained to San Francisco Fire Chief Joseph Medina that a fire marshal ordered the bar closed on February 27 for overcrowding — even as the bar was complying with the order to reduce the crowd.

A spokesman for Medina told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the matter "was being looked into by the chief's office."

According to Thomas Ward, the bar's owner, a fire marshal arrived at the Midnight Sun around midnight Saturday and said that he was responding to an "anonymous call" of overcrowding in the bar.

"The officer told us we had too many people in our bar and that we had to reduce the amount of people. He then left and we began clearing people from the bar. About 15 minutes later he returned with two police officers to the outside of the

building, and without even looking inside said that we had 250 people in the bar and that we had to close," Ward told the *B.A.R.*

Ward insisted that the fire marshal sat in his car and spoke with the manager at that time, and had no idea how many people were in the bar after it was cleared.

"When he was asked to come inside he refused again, saying that 'you had 250 people inside.' This is not right, that an order to close for occupancy violations can be given without coming into an establishment and taking a count. After his first visit, we were in the process of getting people to leave and we had reduced our number of people substantially," Ward wrote Medina.

Medina said that the first time the fire marshal came, the bar had an estimated 130 patrons in the establishment — with an occupancy limit of 89.

By the time the fire marshal returned, the bar had stopped serving drinks and was clearing people from the

bar in an attempt to comply with the limit, Ward said.

The bar was closed by order of the fire marshal at midnight — two hours and hundreds of drink dollars before the legal 2 a.m. closing.

Ward is furious and told the *B.A.R.* that the action wasn't fair.

"We were getting people out and the bar down to the legal occupancy limit," he said.

That's not good enough for the Fire Department, an aide to Supervisor Carole Migden said, after Ward complained to Migden's office about the incident.

"Mr. Ward acknowledged that he had in excess of 89 people in the bar. That's unsafe and not in the interests of the people in the bar. The Fire Department did the right thing. They've closed meetings of the Board of Supervisors before, because they were overcrowded," Migden aide Dana Van Gorder told the *B.A.R.* ▼

Shanti

(Continued from page 4)

government funded program.

Shanti Project is the nation's largest provider of housing for people with AIDS, with 75 employees and an annual budget of \$5.5 million. After housing, its other major program is a volunteer network that supports PWAs. The investigation was provoked because of a complaint made with the Health Department and state Attorney General's Office by former employee Ellen Hardke. Hardke is on vacation and was unavailable for comment. Shanti Project Executive Director Eric Rofes was also out of town and unavailable for comment.

Rofes emphasized in a written statement that Shanti's services have all been graded "satisfactory" by the AIDS Office. Katz told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I have full confidence in Shanti Project's ability to provide quality care and services."

In fact, AIDS Office documents have not graded all of Shanti Project's services "satisfactory," and it appears the two groups have had a



An unnamed visitor to Shanti House looks for something that may be hidden — or lost.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

strained relationship for at least year.

Shanti Project Deputy Executive Director Melinda Paras criticized the AIDS Office last year for what she called "unfair" monitoring practices.

This criticism came in response to the AIDS Office complaints that Shanti Project has an unreasonably high staff turnover rate, kept confidential files in full view at the general reception area, had delays in services, had poor documentation of many clients, and was not providing an agreed-upon newsletter for people with HIV.

In addition, the Health De-

partment found that some PWAs' medical files had not been updated for more than six months. And in one instance, one PWA's medical records were placed in another patient's file.

Rofes wrote in his statement that Shanti Project "mistakenly invoiced the city for 1/12th of the contracted funds monthly," figuring the total by dividing the total yearly allocation by 12, rather than by figuring the amount Shanti spent. That practice was in direct violation of government contracts signed by Rofes, which clearly state invoices can only be submitted for "actual expenditures." ▼

Slain Sailor's Mother Renews Call To Meet Clinton

by David O'Connor

Dorothy Hajdys, mother of slain sailor Allen Schindler, renewed her call for a meeting with President Clinton at a San Francisco press conference March 7.

Hajdys joined former sailor Richard Eastman, who served with her son aboard the *USS Belleau Wood*, and other sailors' parents who said the Navy is harassing their sons. Hajdys also asked that her son's case be "taken out of the hands of the military."

"My son was beaten to death, not by cause of war, not by the enemy, but by two men from his own ship," Hajdys said outside the War Memorial Veterans Building. "I'm not a gay activist. I just don't want any homosexual in the military to end up like my son did."

"I want Clinton to understand what has happened," Hajdys told reporters. "What would he do if his little girl was in the Navy and two people killed his little girl and he knew she was never coming home again and she was never going to say, 'I love you,' again? Would he stay quiet and let the Navy sweep it away?"

The White House refused to respond to calls from the *Bay Area Reporter* asking whether Clinton will meet with Hajdys.

'I don't trust the Navy'

Also attending the Sunday morning press conference were Mary Brennan, whose son David Malcolm remains on legal hold in Japan; Barbara and Anthony Malone, whose son Keith Sims awaits discharge at Treasure Island; and Sue Eastman, whose son Richard Eastman was discharged in January.

Brennan said the Navy told her that her son — a friend of Schindler, Eastman and Sims — is on hold for fraudulent enlistment filing and for a fraudulent report against a fellow sailor.

"I don't trust the Navy," Brennan said. "I don't feel it is protecting the lives of these young men. I think they're all in danger. When sailors can sit off base in a bar and laugh about people disappearing at sea while they talk to reporters from 20/20 [last

month], anything is possible."

Barbara Malone said her son has been victimized by the Navy for exercising his freedom of speech. Sims is under unspecified investigation after talking with the press about circumstances surrounding Schindler's murder.

Sims said he first told Navy investigators everything he knew, but when they seemed uninterested in his testimony, he went to the press.

Malone also criticized the Navy for failing to tell her of developments regarding her son.

"When these young men join the military, they act like the young men don't have any family," Malone said.

Tim Rump of the Bay Area Military Freedom Project, who organized the press conference, demanded an end to what he called the Navy's "harassment" of sailors who were friends of Schindler.

"The Navy has turned the murder trial of Allen Schindler into a witch hunt," Rump said. "Friends of Allen are being interrogated and made out to be criminals."

"We appeal to President Clinton and the Department of Justice to appoint a special prosecutor to be named by the attorney general," Rump said. "The Navy has already demonstrated that they are more interested in protecting their anti-gay policies, and hiding the neglect of their responsibility for allowing the murder to happen, than in achieving justice."

Hajdys' call for intervention from the president echoed statements made last week by conservative gay activist Marvin Leibman at a press conference in Washington, D.C. Leibman said Navy officials' desire to maintain the military ban on gays made it impossible for the Navy to conduct an adequate investigation of Schindler's murder.

Schindler was beaten to death last October in Japan. Airman Apprentice Terry Helvey will be charged with the murder in a court-martial set to begin April 27. Airman Charles Vins, also implicated in the murder, served less than four months in jail after pleading guilty to lesser charges and agreeing to testify against Helvey.

Vins' sentence was set at four months in accordance with his pre-trial agreement, according to Navy records. Vins began serving his sentence November 23; the sentence was reduced due to credit for pre-trial confinement served prior to his November 22 court-martial and due to good conduct, according to the Navy.

Vins was released from confinement February 2 and will be held in legal hold until Helvey's court-martial is completed, according to the Navy.

Attempted panic defense clarified

In response to last week's *Bay Area Reporter*, Lieu-



Dorothy Hajdys, mother of slain sailor Allen Schindler, at a March 7 press conference in San Francisco. "You wouldn't believe I used to be real quiet," Hajdys said. "Now I won't shut up."

(Photo: Judi Parks)

tenant Commander Betsy Bird of Pacific Fleet Public Affairs clarified information regarding Helvey's earlier claim that his action in the slaying was in response to an unwanted sexual advance from Schindler.

In a sworn statement made the day after the October 27 murder, Helvey accused Schindler of approaching him for sex, according to Navy records. Helvey later said that the accusation was not true and he is charged with making a false statement in the incident.

Last week's report inaccurately named Admiral Frank Kelso as the person who oversaw the failed investigation of an explosion aboard the *USS Iowa* in 1989.

Rear Admiral Richard Mil-

ligan headed the initial investigation of the *Iowa* explosion. Without hard evidence, the Navy blamed Clayton Hartwig for intentionally setting the blast. The Navy said Hartwig, who was killed in the explosion, was distraught after other sailors rebuffed his sexual advances.

Under pressure from Congress, the Navy reopened the *Iowa* investigation in May 1990. Kelso announced in October 1991 that the Navy had no proof of sabotage in the *Iowa* explosion and apologized to Hartwig's family.

'I used to be real quiet'

"You wouldn't believe I used to be real quiet," Hajdys said at the March 7 press conference. "Now I won't shut up."

"Nobody gave a care about my son being killed until it came out that he had declared he was homosexual," Hajdys said. "What difference does that make? Does that make him less of a human? It must make him more of a human for all the publicity it's gotten him."

The press conference was sponsored by the Bay Area Military Freedom Project and the American Legion Alexander Hamilton Post. Many volunteer groups and individuals made a special effort to welcome the press conference participants, including Le Trou Restaurant Francais on Guerrero Street, which treated them to a complimentary meal on March 6, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, which provided lodging. ▼

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Mary Brennan, whose son is on legal hold in Japan.

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Editorial

A Season's Greeting

Happy holiday!

It's a common enough sentiment, good year 'round, the kind of thing we like to hear and say just because it feels good.

... And then there's St. Patrick's Day...

Here in San Francisco it may seem inconceivable, but St. Pat's has turned into a battleground on the East Coast: Irish thugs who run the parades in Boston and New York have been fighting in court to keep lesbians and gays away from the festivities.

Happy holiday, indeed.

We never knew St. Pat — all those rumors about us being contemporaries notwithstanding — but we assume he was a relatively nice person. As we recall, he drove the snakes out of Ireland; we could use him now to drive the hatemongers out of America. (Our hagiography is a bit rusty, so if St. Pat was actually a crusty old bastard who never had a nice word to say about anyone, please congratulate yourself for being so knowledgeable — but do not write to tell us.) Anyway, whatever he was like, one thing is clear: the self-appointed guardians of his name, his day, and his parade are clearly not nice, even relatively.

They, like Colin Powell, have obviously forgotten how their ancestors were treated in the not-so-distant past. Bay Area Reporter readers with Irish grandparents have no doubt heard about the unfortunate immigrants who fled the potato famine of their homeland only to face scorn, derision, and abuse that the anti-Irish forces in America felt justified in heaping upon the innocents.

It was wrong for those churlish morons then, and it is no less wrong for the Irish to be churlish morons now.

We have been in New York for St. Pat's and we found it a singularly disagreeable event — except, possibly, for people who are charmed by the sight of teenage boys and red-nosed old men mewling and puking into gutters side by side. As we remember it, it is a time when the streets are clogged; the air reeks of beer — quite a lot of which has been, clearly, already consumed; people seem unnaturally moved to litter for the sheer sake of littering; and (although we are quite sure we don't need to mention this) it has none of the fun or style of a good gay pride parade. Why, if not for all the Koreans and Jamaicans wearing absurdly large "Kiss me I'm Irish" buttons, we wouldn't like the holiday at all.

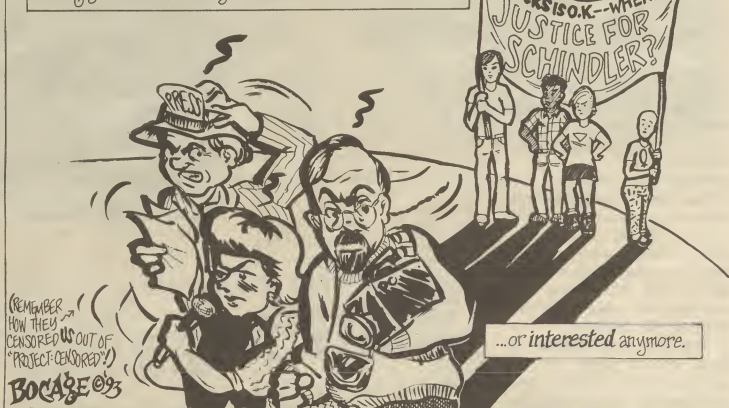
And yet, we don't want it taken away from us just because we're gay.

At the risk of returning to a threadbare scratching post, we blame the so-called religious leaders in New York and Boston for fostering the hatred. It is a sorry day for the religion — as it is for the holiday and the parade — when it gets irrevocably associated with hatred. Shame.

We wish *no* happy holiday for those who have spearheaded the drives to eliminate lesbians and gays from public parades. We do, however, hope that some enterprising folks are out with video cameras to catch the moronic behavior so in evidence at their event, much as the so-called "christian" terrorists did at last year's San Francisco Freedom Day Parade. We'd love to see those party revellers held accountable in a film, as we are in *The Gay Agenda*, for their own celebratory carrying-on; we wonder how they would feel about being stereotyped for the rest of their lives based on one drunken March afternoon. We think they'd hate it, which is fine with us.

And to you, dear readers, we wish a very, very happy holiday. ▼

Once upon a time, an activist group called news media to protest the savage beating death of Socks Clinton by a Navy sailor. Journalists swarmed to the protest. When they learned of the ruse — not a cat, but a gay man, was dead — they were *not* amused...



Guest Opinion

A Great-Grandfather for Civil Rights

By Lucian K. Truscott, III

In the Korean War in 1951 I commanded a rifle company. We had a gay soldier with us in combat. Last November I wrote an article for *The Washington Post* and described the death of that young man.

As a result of the article I received a call from the Human Rights Campaign Fund. The caller asked if I would be willing to come to Washington to lobby Congress on behalf of gays in the military. I was impressed by the "Human Rights" portion of this organization, but it turned out that it is the nation's largest gay rights political organization.

Well! That was a shock! Here I am: a retired Army Infantry Colonel; West Point graduate; father of five kids, eight grandchildren and a great-grandchild on the way; son of a World War II four star general; numerous friends both among my West Point classmates, other friends from my Army service, and my friends from my post-retirement civil life. What would all of them think?

The fact that I have that question in my mind is the crux of both the military and national problem concerning gays: to think there's something "wrong" not only with being gay, but also associating with them.

After much soul searching, or perhaps just searching for my soul, I decided that I had to stand up and be counted. I couldn't deny my article. Nor could I deny my very strong faith in the words my fifth great-grandfather penned some 217 years ago: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..."

So for two days in the Senate and House recently I became a 71-year-old retired soldier activist, not specifically for racial rights or gay rights or women's rights but for equal rights. And several times during the two days, people asked me if I agreed with General Powell's asserting that "Skin color is benign, non-behavioral characteristic. Sexual orientation is per-

haps the most profound of human behavioral characteristics." I do not agree with him. Skin color was certainly not "benign" back in 1948 to the mid-50s when we were integrating blacks into the military. General Powell could not now, nor then, understand or feel the emotions of some of the whites during those days. Some of them were every bit as emotional about that integration as some people are about this one, even more so — and I dare say a few still are! And I remind the general that we had a hell of a lot more trouble integrating the Officers' Clubs than we did the battlefield.

After my Washington adventure I received a letter from my daughter-in-law in Northern Virginia. She told me of being in the checkout line at a local grocery store where a nice-looking man she guessed to be about 50 asked her about a pin on her coat lapel. She had forgotten she had one there and looked down to see that it was an Inaugural pin with President Clinton's picture on it. Aloud she read the words — "Let the Celebration Begin!" — and the man started calling her names: "queer" and "lesbian" chief among them. Then he started including the president: "gay! homo!" She was shocked and embarrassed and hurried out of the store. But before she left she paused to take a good look at this man who she described in her letter as looking "so normal, like he was a teacher or an accountant or even a retired military officer. And suddenly I felt incredibly sad."

These were her closing words in the letter: "Halfway back to the office it occurred to me that this gays-in-the-military thing isn't about gays at all. It's about hate, and its target could be anything. When you came to Washington this week, you didn't just do it for gays (or even the military). You also did it for Blacks and Jews and Asians and Women. Thanks."

Her "thanks" brought tears to my eyes, and I hope she's wrong about the hate. ▼

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Letters

Janet Reno

It's an old cliché that "politics make strange bedfellows," but the thought of Queer Nation joining forces with a homophobic right-winger to "out" Attorney General-designate Janet Reno takes the cake for weirdness.

We haven't been using the outing weapon properly; to the contrary, we've aimed it at the wrong targets and have gotten burned for it. In the last three years, neither Queer Nation or anyone else has attempted to out our homophobic enemies. Instead, Queer Nation attempts to out people like Janet Reno, who, as far as I know, have done nothing to actively inflict harm on us. Why?

To target Reno for outing when she hasn't done anything bad to our community is stupid and counterproductive. If Reno is a lesbian, it's up to her to say so, not some whacked-out pink-ghetto "queer" fringe group that insists that we all refer to ourselves by that degrading homophobic epithet.

Nor is it up to Reno's right-wing, anti-gay nemesis, John Thompson, to try to drag her out, either. To the contrary, if anyone deserves to be targeted for outing in this case, it is Thompson, not Reno, because of his blatant anti-gay bias.

If you really want to out someone, go after those who clearly deserve it — our rabidly homophobic enemies. Let those not yet out of the closet — and not our enemies — come to terms with their homosexuality or bisexuality on their own time. What those of us already out need to do is create an environment where our closeted brothers and sisters can come out with courage and confidence.

D. B. Sanders
Berkeley, CA

Dysfunction Junction

As a former mental health professional, I read with interest Tim Farrell's review (Feb. 11) of "I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional," Wendy Kaminer's critique of the 12-step movement. I would agree with the author (and the reviewer) that the movement's jargon has perhaps lowered the intellectual temperature of self-inquiry.

I worry, too, that there is danger in seeing nearly everyone as a victim of some sort. Author Kaminer describes a real victim, a Cambodian woman who watched helplessly as her husband's head was split open with an ax. By contrast, someone whose parents yelled at them is less a victim. But it's here that reviewer Farrell selects a curious example to illustrate this point within the gay community: HIV-negative men.

Farrell launches an attack against psychotherapist Thomas Moon, who recently came out in favor of social services for gay HIV-negative men. Farrell lambastes Moon for suggesting that men are "shamed away" from seeking support. What would such men have to complain about, after all? Nothing, except that — like the Cambodian woman — they have watched their husbands (and loved ones and friends) die in sometimes ghastly ways. If anything, Moon's premise about shaming is strengthened by Farrell's attempt at shaming Moon.

I hope the needs of HIV-positive loved ones will always come first. But being silent about my own needs — to cope, to grieve, to heal — is madness. Only a truly thick-skinned person would attempt to minimize the crushing toll of AIDS on any human being near its epicenter.

Preston Reese, M.A.
Gold River, CA

A "Better Looking" Escort Responds

On behalf of the working end of models and escorts, I felt obligated to respond to Garland Grizell's letter to the editor, (B.A.R.), Feb. 4.

I was mortified to say the least! Mr. Grizell, you are obviously a very bored man if you have nothing better to do than compare ages, pictures and dimensions with previous issues.

You must be unemployed. That can be the only explanation for all your free time and your lack of funds. Do us all a favor and get a life — and a job!

You suggested such things as AM-PM discounts, holiday specials, discounts for seniors, discounts for "types," etc. If anything, it should cost *more* for you old trolls! The vast majority are so obnoxious half the time it's not even worth the hassle.

The average escort charges \$100 — give or take. Being one of the better-looking "boys," I am insulted by this rate, but it must be set at whatever the traffic can bear. You better stay home in your ivory tower, queen. God forbid you ever went to New York, Los Angeles or Las Vegas. Your Social Security checks wouldn't cover your obsession in those cities.

I'm not going to go into the details of what we boys have to put up with day in and day out, but maintenance and grooming are but a few. Consider gym memberships, transportation and the everyday "supplies" that are necessary to make this business run.

Mr. Grizell, please identify yourself if you ever call me so I can have the pleasure of hanging up in your face. That is, if you have a phone under the bridge where you live.

S. Anthony
San Francisco

Stop the Cuts Now

Thank you for your well-written, informative article, "The Unkindest Cut of All" in your Feb. 25 issue. The opposition to neo-natal male circumcision has gone unheard for too long, but thanks to "underground" movements and information, the rate of circumcision has dropped from 95 percent to about half in the last 30 years. Articles such as yours will further inform the American public and could lead to its virtual elimination in the near future.

Neo-natal circumcision video tapes are readily available from anti-circumcision organizations such as NOCIRC and REMAIN INTACT for a nominal donation. Rarely will a new mother allow her baby to be sexually abused and mutilated once she has seen the pain, screams and blood of the videos.

If the same procedures were routinely practiced on newborn baby girls in the U.S., the outcry would be incredible.

It is time for the real men of America to stand up and demand intact bodies for future generations.

As Dr. Spock recently put it so well, "If you want to have it done as a consenting adult — fine. But in the meantime, let's leave our little boys' normal penises alone."

Jim Barnes
San Francisco

A Gay Marine

I am writing in response to your article, "Local Poet Gits No Mareen Pin Palz and Their Smarte," printed in the B.A.R. on Feb. 4.

I am currently serving with an attachment (2nd Battalion, 9th Marines, 1st Marine Division) off the coast of Saudi Arabia in Somalia, at which point a man by the name of Gene Catalano took time out of his business and busy social life to write to "any marine" stationed in this dreaded, chaotic land.

I, being a gay marine, took the time to write back to Mr. Catalano for his support and all which he so eloquently wrote.

Hence, when I received a copy of your article, to my astonishment, I have to profess I personally found it to be biased, inaccurate and very exasperating. Why? When there are so many problems already in the gay community, must a newspaper take a gay man's act of good will and turn it into something ugly? Why must you show so much negativity when there were and still remain a positive quality in it all? It is true that people in today's society need to view both sides of the spectrum. However, is it in your place to be so one-sided as to show all those opposing views for your readers to absorb? It kind of makes me ashamed to know that the person who wrote this article actually lives in San Francisco, the biggest "family city" in America — perhaps the world.

I applaud Mr. Catalano for his actions in supporting us Americans while serving in the Somalia region of Africa. It is more men like this that we need in the world today. Those whose actions speak louder than words, who are out there in the world taking it in the shins for us all (be it straight or gay). The type of man who stands for what he believes in — in spite of all contesting factors.

I am saddened to see that not only are some heterosexuals against us, but the ignorant share of homosexuals as well. We should be fighting together in unity — not against one another on paper.

I leave you and your readers (if you choose to print this) with this thought by Tom Clancy: "The noblest of ideas are defended by warriors." Furthermore, I guess your title should have read — with the correct spelling of words of course. I know you have Spell Checker! "Local Poet Gets Marine Pen Palz Because They're Smart." Thank you for your time.

A Gay Marine
Somewhere off the Coast of Somalia

Ed. Note: We report news, not make it. Also, Tom Clancy is a homophobe who has stated his objection to people like you in the U.S. military. Maybe you should write him a letter.

Hot Sex & Raw Emotion

Is it possible that Deborah Peifer is single-handedly trying to prevent any lesbian-made films from being seen by our community, let alone funded? I saw *Claire of the Moon* with an audience that responded to its honesty, storyline and flat out hot sex. Personally, this movie spoke to me as a reflection of circumstance and truth. How many of us had our first sexual experience with a woman because of raw emotion, not politics? The movie was also about how women (all kinds) interact — positive, negative, whatever! This movie says to me that we are people — writers, housewives, doctors, good and evil. Personally, it means more to me to become part of the natural flow of this earth, as opposed to trying to fit into a very small mold.

I really resent the tone and attitude of the review. Please Deborah, if *Claire of the Moon* is not exactly your cup of tea, allow the rest of our community to see another view — they just might help make it possible for future movies to be made.

Brenda Gowers
San Francisco

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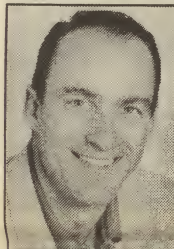
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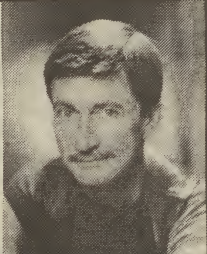


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Letters

Boycotting All Colorado

I read the Feb. 25 column by Mr. Marcus and to say the least, I was dismayed by his defense of the trip that his good friend Lenny Broberg took to Colorado. Apparently your Mr. Marcus feels that his friend's actions in attending the Mr. Colorado Leather Contest were somehow exempted from what the rest of us consider to be a boycott.

In his latest column, Marcus raved on about someone named Bill Miranda-Salzman who has, according to your columnist, "... the entire international and domestic leather community is in a big uproar..." because he has objected to Broberg's visit to Colorado. Well, the uproar must be mostly in Mr. Marcus's ears because I consider myself to be a member of the gay leather community and I believe that if a highly visible gay spokesman like Broberg breaks a national boycott of a state that has passed an anti-gay measure he ought to be brought to task for it. To try to absolve him because he didn't go there "... to ski, cruise or vacation" is ludicrous. He ignored the boycott plain and simple.

If I'm in an uproar over anything, it's self-serving lesbians and gays who choose to ignore our common interests and try to rationalize their own selfishness. I wouldn't know Bill Miranda-Salzman if I tripped over him, but if he is speaking out in favor of standing up for our rights, then he has my vote.

I don't know where Mr. Marcus got the idea that the boycott of Colorado applied only to non-gay events. He must have access to a whole range of information that has escaped me. The Boycott Colorado organization has made it very plain. They want us to boycott the state, period! That means don't go there ... or stay away! It doesn't exempt people who happen to have their name mentioned four times a week by Marcus.

Lenny Broberg can pursue his own self interests, but I am dismayed that a columnist of yours would support his anti-gay actions. Mr. Marcus we are boycotting Colorado period! In case you and your friend haven't gotten the message, you have it now.

Edward Kane
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Mr. Marcus responds: In solidarity with all gays and lesbians living in Colorado, I personally support their fundraising efforts to repeal the Amendment 2 enacted by the unenlightened voters of that state. The leather event scheduled for the weekend of March 12-14 is just one event to benefit the battle. Now you have the message.

New Age

May I add a few words to the "New Age" people vs. Michael Botkin discussion? While I often disagree with Michael Botkin, I thought he was "right on" in his criticisms of certain aspects of new age philosophy. As one who is involved in both western and alternative healing practices, I can safely say that I've seen a lot more "snake oil" salespeople in the alternative communities.

One "healer" in your newspaper a few weeks ago asked: "Why do these people want to have AIDS?", as if we are the sole cause of our diseases. I could have screamed at that guy. Such medieval claptrap is the biggest guilt-trip I've heard in years. It's an insult to humanity.

Yes, we affect our reality. Yes, we participate in our reality. And, yes, our emotions and thoughts affect our healing. But some diseases will get us no matter how loving or pure we are or how much we want to live. We are not 100 percent responsible for all that happens to us.

Stan Levy
Berkeley, CA

Info Needed

I am a graduate student attending CSU, Fresno (also known as "Fresno State"). The current administration and Food Services are in the legal process of negotiating a contract for an on-campus restaurant to be operated by Carl's Jr.

I recall reading heterosexual and homophobic views in the past regarding its founder and CEO, Carl Karcher. This has already been mentioned to the Food Service Advisory Board, but they have stated that these views have not been documented.

I need your help and the assistance of your readership! Does anyone have any further related information on this subject? Past bona fide clippings, contact people, facts, etc., will suffice. It is my primary objective to prevent Carl's Jr. from the CSU, Fresno campus.

Time is of the essence! Mail to me at P.O. Box 4192, Fresno, CA. 93744. Thank you for your time, energy and support.

Peter Robertson
'Snarl Carl'
P.O. Box 4192
Fresno, CA 93744

Not Boycotting Gay Colorado

In reference to questions that have been surfaced recently in Mr. Marcus' column regarding Bill Miranda-Salzman and the "Boycott Colorado" issue, I would like to make the National Leather Association's position very clear. Because of Mr. Miranda-Salzman's previous NLA title and his position on the NLA Executive Committee, this issue has unfortunately involved us in a way far beyond our control or choice.

So as to separate the NLA from any individual's actions however and make clear our true position, I would appreciate your inclusion of the following statement in your paper.

The National Leather Association in no way whatsoever supports either a boycott of Colorado events held by our brothers and sisters nor of any titleholders who are supporting such events.

Regardless of whatever confusion there may be around the actions of any individual, no single person other than the NLA: International Co-Chairs are in a position to speak for the NLA.

The National Leather Association has, and will continue to support the fight against 'legalized oppression' wherever it may occur; but that does not mean fighting each other."

Sallee Mallard Huber, Co-Chair
National Leather Association International
Seattle, WA.

Marcus: Gossip or News?

Having recently moved to the San Francisco area, I have relied on the *Bay Area Reporter* and consider your paper a viable medium for news and information. Generally, the B.A.R.'s handling of newsworthy issues here and abroad are usually written with the most care, sensitivity and accuracy. However, Mr. Marcus' column recently has gradually become a disturbing disappointment. I, like most of the leather community, am under the assumption that the major objective/intent of Marcus' column is to serve as a positive information exchange for and about the leather community. While his column does highlight specific social events and fundraising efforts sponsored for and about the leather community, it has recently, more often than not, become a means by which to discredit people who have been long-standing contributors to the San Francisco gay community. Although there are others, of particular concern to me is the mishandling of information regarding Mr. Gregory Adams and the Ebony in Leather competition held in November 1992, in which I was a contestant.

It is fact that in several issues of the B.A.R., statements were made regarding Mr. Adams and the administration of the competition without proper verification prior to publication. When attempts were made to correct the allegations, Mr. Marcus refused to print them. The type of commentary used can be called malicious at best. Mr. Marcus' weekly column has been reduced to the likes of the *National Enquirer* and the *Star*. If Mr. Marcus is merely a gossip columnist it should be advertised as such. I am sure the leather community can find a more credible journalist and paper to cover its important issues if necessary. If this column is intended to be a sounding board for his own anger it is very unfortunate. There are very few of us who turn to Marcus' column to find out who "drop-kicked who" or who gets "dissed" this week. Someone with such power of the pen should be called upon to be accountable to his readers, not to his own emotions ... let's go back to College Journalism 101!

If the *Bay Area Reporter* regards itself to be a friend and resource for the leather community, your administration should challenge Mr. Marcus to produce the kind of column this community needs, one that promotes unity, dignity and respect; one that emulates the genuine hard work and commitment this community has long been noted for. Likewise, I challenge the San Francisco leather community to be pro-active in preventing the types of divisiveness that is created by Marcus' type of journalism.

Lee Fredericks
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Please see Mr. Marcus' column of Feb. 4 for clarification of some of the issues you raise.

ACT UP/East Bay Urges Phone Calls

I urge all B.A.R. readers to call Hoffman-LaRoche President Patrick Zenner (201) 235-5000 and demand timely TAT research or turnover of TAT research to the National Institutes of Health.

Roche has failed to release information about TAT inhibitor despite 5 years of very slow research and \$2.8 million in government subsidies. TAT inhibitor is different from other anti-HIV treatments because it halts replication in already infected cells rather than just preventing infection of new cells (See *AIDS Treatment News*, Jan. 1, 1993). Call because the lives of people with HIV depend on the rapid evaluation of the safety and efficacy of new drugs. Thanks.

John Iverson
ACT UP/East Bay
Oakland, CA

Soap Operatics

Because I had somehow hoped that all this was really not happening, I have purposely declined writing about the three-ring circus that has recently been going on under the Big Top called City Hall. However, when I was buying flowers from Reba at the popular flower stand outside Mueller's Deli Saturday, no less than three readers (two of whom were complete strangers) asked me about "the real story" regarding Police Chief Tony Ribera, his sexual-harassment accuser Joanne Welsh, and her latest boyfriend, Supervisor Bill Maher.

Is the chief really guilty of the charges? Did Welsh, who even many women officers say is too used to having things her way, invent the charges (years after the alleged incidents, it should be remembered) because she was afraid of losing a job that would keep her face on television and in the papers regularly? Is Maher the political bully that more than a few



Bob to Susan

were elected to do."

Supervisor Migden, as usual, makes damned good sense and she's not afraid to say what she is thinking. It's little wonder there is more and more talk about a Migden for Mayor race in 1995; you might not agree with her on every issue, but she's one of City Hall's best.

Politics and People

Reportedly spotted on Castro Street: a bumper sticker saying "Don't Blame Me, I Voted for Art."

Senator Barbara Boxer's Washington staff reports the freshman senator gets approximately 10,000 (ten thousand?) constituent letters a day, reportedly getting more mail than any other U.S. senator; Boxer's staff cannot explain the highly unusual mail load although Boxer thinks it might have something to do with the image she cultivated during the campaign — that of a scrappy fighter who stands up for workaday people. "I told people [during the campaign] I wanted them to stay connected to the process, and I guess they took me at my word," Boxer says.

Dianne Feinstein, although seemingly better known to California voters, receives only about one-fifth of the mail Boxer gets.

Incidentally, Boxer's replacement in the House, Representative Lynn Woolsey, the former Petaluma councilwoman, is reportedly fast becoming considered a political lightweight, with some fellow Demo House members from this state complaining that "this woman hasn't a clue," or as one California Congress member recently said, "Let me put it this way, a Nancy Pelosi she is not."

Here's former San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos, now a \$92,000-a-year member of the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, talking to the *LA Times* about his job (which he freely admits was patronage work handed to him by longtime friend Willie Brown); Agnos says he and six other commissioners dispose of 18,000 appeals annually, many of them brought by workers who are denied unemployment insurance. The majority of the seven-member board are Republicans, and Agnos tells the *Times* he is unabashed in his belief that he must side with workers if at all possible. "If you get laid off, and don't get your benefits, you better pray that Art Agnos is going to be there," he says. Sure,

Agnos's appointment was a patronage plum handed to him after he lost the mayor's race, but, as the *Times* points out, given that he once ran a city with a \$2.45 million budget and has a master's degree, Agnos is, if anything, probably over-qualified for the job.

Even Pete Wilson's political allies in Sacramento privately admit his choice of conservative Orange County state Senator Marian Bergeson over the more moderate Senator Becky Morgan of Menlo Park for the post of superintendent of public instruction — replacing the convicted Bill Honig — was a move designed solely to placate the ultra-right wingers who now control the state Republican Party; one Wilson aide was even said to have admitted that the Bergeson appointment "constituted an apology" for the one Wilson appointment the right-wingers most reviled: naming pro-choice former state Senator John Seymour to the U.S. Senate. Getting the conservative Senator Bergeson confirmed by the Democratic-controlled Legislature could prove as futile as when then-Representative Dan Lungren failed to get confirmed to the post of state treasurer a few years back.

As for those Wilson Republicans who came away from the recent state GOP Convention thinking they won some kind of ideological victory — wait until the Demo nominee for Governor (Kathleen Brown?), the Demo nominee against Lungren (Arlo Smith?) and Dianne Feinstein get through reminding voters that the recent GOP confab passed a platform for Wilson and Company to run on that declares "the pre-born deserve full protection under the law" and that "AIDS-infected individuals serve as reservoirs for a variety of secondary infections." You got real problems, Pete, and your party did little at its recent state convention to help you with them.

Tom Ammannio for supervisor? Sounds like a good idea to me.

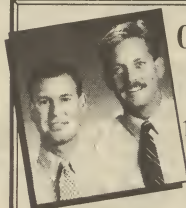
In St. Paul, Minnesota, Bob Sylvester served on the City Council from 1974 through '78; the former councilmember is running for Council again this year — as Susan Sylvester (thanks to a 1984 sex change) and is given a better-than-even chance of winning in her tough, blue-collar district; a Democrat, the onetime *Catholic Bulletin* editor is campaigning as an expert on government finance, and says winning her old seat "would give a certain completeness to my life."

"Operation Lift The Ban," a project of the Human Rights Campaign Fund to ban discrimination in the military, will meet this coming Sunday, March 14, at 1 p.m. at the offices of Local 250, (Hospital and Health Care Workers Union) at 240 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information about the efforts in Washington to lift the ban against gays and lesbians in the military; several activities are being planned in the Bay Area on this issue; information will be announced, and an opportunity for people to volunteer will also be provided. Call Lowell Gibbs at (510) 465-2009 for info.

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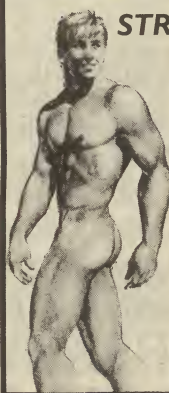
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Commentary

have called him? (This guy would never win a popularity contest at City Hall and probably will never win an election again, either.) Guess what: despite the prying minds of a few Castro Street gossips (well, it is theatre, isn't it?) I really don't think a hell of a lot of people any longer care about any of the above.

I have known Bill Maher both politically and socially for nearly 14 years; he has always been damned nice to me, but there are scores of others who will tell you they don't come any more obnoxious than the fast-talking supe; I've known Chief Ribera since he was a beat cop on Polk Street and think he's a good guy — in my opinion, they don't come any nicer; and although I have met Officer Welsh a couple of times, I don't know her at all, but there are sure a hell of a lot of people saying a hell of a lot of things about her.

Is Chief Ribera guilty? Is Joanne Welsh a liar? (A good lawyer would not have let her take that lie detector test — and twice at that!) Is Bill Maher the womanizing political thug some are calling him? And, finally, is Mayor Jordan a political wimp for possibly not handling the whole sorry mess differently? Surely, I don't know, and I suspect I feel the way the majority of San Franciscans do — "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn!"

To be sure, there are those who see political gain in continuing this "third-rate soap opera" and there are newspaper people who see profit in keeping this ugly affair on their front pages, but probably if I had to guess I would say that the mayor probably did the right thing by attempting to put this entire mess behind us so he could turn, finally, to the really important City Hall business. Or, as Supervisor Carole Migden — who could hardly be accused of being a Jordan political ally — put it this week, "Enough is enough; the mayor took decisive action; I think the city is ready to move on and we should get on with doing the work we

Next Generation's History Books

by Nancy Boutillier

I never thought I'd be quoting KPIX-TV anchor Hank Plante. I'm sure he's a nice enough guy, but his jokes are the kind I usually roll my eyes at. Nevertheless, at the Opening Ceremonies of the San Francisco Gay Softball League, Hank Plante jerked a genuine tear from my eye. Pointing to honored guests

Commentary

Roberta Achtenberg, Keith Meinhold, and Cleve Jones, Plante said, "Here are three people who will be featured in the next generation's history books."

And, you know what? I believed him, at least I believed him long enough to feel my eyes water and my throat lump up. In a flash, I imagined it could be true. And, in retrospect, I still believe it.

If a presidential appointment (and Senate confirmation) of an out lesbian activist, the national focus on the Names Project Quilt, and the court's ruling against the military ban on gay soldiers are not recorded as milestones in our struggle for equality, I don't know what will be. And the three people assembled for the ceremonial First Pitch sure represented those three triumphs.

What will historians title

our chapters? "The Homosexual Agenda?" "Queer Nationalism?" Or, like the upcoming March on Washington, "The Fight for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation?" I sure would feel better about those chapter headings if I knew local historians like Allan Berube and Peg Cruikshank were helping to write those books.

If our history is recorded and valued fully, generations to come may see the opening of Roberta Achtenberg High Schools across the country, a Cleve Jones Avenue in every city, or the USS Meinhold cutting through the water into San Francisco Bay.

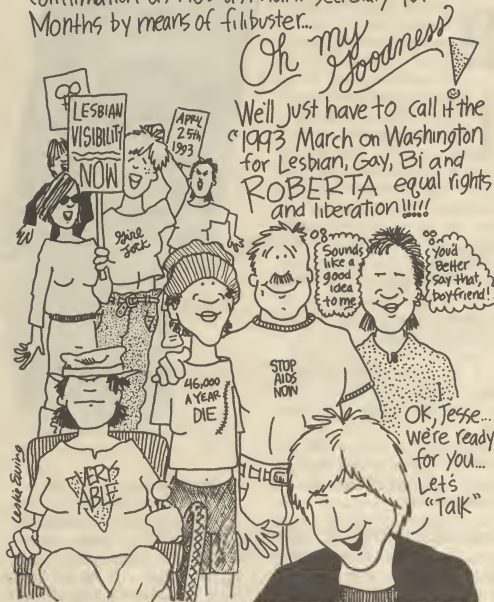
How fortunate we are, in this city, to have so many pioneers in our midst — women and men who not only come out publicly and politically, but also come out day after day, night after night, for the zillions of fundraisers and awards ceremonies. They make quick speeches to praise this effort or that person. They arrive with proclamations from the Board of Supervisors, as Carole Migden did at Opening Day, to recognize the achievement and good works of organizations. Whether to throw out the first pitch or to judge the last Bare Chest Contest, for the calendar, people like Hank Plante, Tom Ammanno, Karen Williams, Joanne Loulan, Deena Jones, IML Lenny Broberg, Mr. Drummer Emerson Briney, and the

Royal Court members — Empress after Empress after Empress — keep coming out to celebrate whatever forms of community we make for ourselves.

When I think of Achtenberg discussing important matters with The Capitol Hillbillies, it's hard not to smile and take pride in our community's triumph, which is, of course, her triumph. Yet, Achtenberg shares her victory so sincerely that every person standing around the softball diamond this past weekend thought of her as Roberta. "We love you, Roberta," somebody shouted, and she turned genuinely and waved in the direction of the voice. "Isn't Roberta the best?" someone asked me, but of course it was a statement, not a question. The whole community is on a first-name basis with Roberta because — like so many other public figures — she has chosen to identify so fully with the community. Roberta and others have let their victories be our victories.

And sometimes it's easy to forget what a national scope our local heroes have covered. Just think, Harvey Milk School is in New York, not San Francisco. The people among us today — in line behind you at the Castro Village Pharmacy, browsing beside you at Good Vibrations, leaning on the bannister at The Cafe, and having dinner at next table at Muchacha's —

...You know that a single Senator (and Jesse is his name) will try to delay Roberta Achtenberg's confirmation as HUD assistant secretary for Months by means of filibuster...



these may be the pioneers of the next national leap for our lives.

I have no doubt that Roberta will come through on the promise she made to the ballplayers assembled on Lang Field for Opening Day: "I'm taking a little part of all of you with me" to Washington. And, if I'm not mistaken, Achtenberg was moved not only by the warmth of the welcome she received from the crowd, but also by having to acknowledge that heading to Washington, D.C., means leaving San Francisco.

And it was Cleve Jones who reminded everyone that April 25, 1993 offers each of us an opportunity to take a part of ourselves to Washington — or, as Achtenberg put it, help get Washington ready for her. Not only did she note the lack of good coffee in the nation's capital, but Achtenberg also pointed out how the way people responded to her felt like a jump back in time about 15 years. She indicated that people in those hallowed halls are, unaccustomed to dealing with open, out, proud lesbian and gay people.

In this city, it can often feel like we're fighting for another seat on the Board of Supervisors, for curricular changes in the schools, for partner benefits, for this or that piece of legislation. But, in much of the country, the fights are still about visibility and safety. There remains a great deal to ACT UP about. Free Colorado!

Which is not to say we've washed away all the homophobia in San Francisco. Nor do I overlook the ways many in our city are fighting for their safety and their lives. But we do have a kind of political clout that has us fighting, all too often, with one another, within the community.

This is no time for complacency. As always, as a community, we're fighting for our lives and for each other's lives. March on Washington if you can.

Last weekend, young people connected with the

LYRIC, the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, were trying to raise money to help send their members to Washington. Imagine the investment we're making for the movement if we help young gay, lesbian and bisexual youth activists take part in what promises to be ... well, based on what the 1987 march did for the 26-year-old I was at the time ... an empowerment to last a lifetime.

I think of all those people who donate their time and energy to fundraiser after fundraiser — those same people who are currently carving out a place in history because of their pioneering spirit and their endless energy and good will — and I think, how can I thank them for their willingness to keep coming out to celebrate what forms of community we make for ourselves?

Then, I wonder if Hank Plante's prediction will come to pass — those history books of the future. Perhaps the March on Washington is everyone's chance to celebrate what forms of community we make for ourselves. And perhaps Hank's jokes are not so bad — a bit corny perhaps, and maybe some of them are kind of cute. Besides, it's not his jokes that matter, but his presence, his willingness to be counted, and to be counted upon by the community.

I, for one, don't care what name or slogan any governing bodies attach to this march or that parade. In 1987, I believed myself to be marching "for love and for life." And when I make my way across this country to Washington D.C. in April, I will still be marching for love and life. I hope those of you who can and want to, find a way to march for what you believe, too.

And, if you can afford to help the young people of LYRIC make their pride and politics present in Washington, give them a call at 703-6150. ▼

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Surprises in the Snow

by Michael Botkin

Have I awakened into a terrible nightmare? I ask myself as I fumble with the car keys while precariously balancing on an uneven sea of solid ice in the teeth of a sub-zero wind. It's a big American car, borrowed from my partner's parents, and its archaic rear-wheel drive is ill-suited

Commentary

for Chicago's winters. So, for that matter, am I. Is this some Twilight Zone vision of hell? No, I reassure myself; it's only my hometown in February, the one month of the year I swore I would never, ever spend here again.

It was 60 and sunny when we left San Francisco — only yesterday? A day was lost in SouthWestern Land, that peculiar limbo you enter when you fly long distances by SouthWest Air, "the Greyhound of the Skies." Because their planes land at each of their local hubs en-route — Phoenix, El Paso, Houston, Nashville — the trip from San Francisco to Chicago takes all day, but a next-day ticket on any other airline would cost twice as much, even with a grudgingly granted "medical emergency" discount.

And we definitely need next-day tickets. Andy, our best friend ever, warned us that he isn't expected to last out the week, and that if we want to say good-bye we'd better hurry. We worked both phones, lining up our departure. Can Neal and Chris watch our beagles? Yes; Lady will enjoy the change of pace but Roscoe, clearly scenting trouble in the wind, is already moping about the house with a hang-dog expression. Other calls cover or cancel work commitments and line up housing and local transportation.

Packing took most of the night. My meds take up an alarming amount of space — I'm reminded of a trip I took to an AIDS Clinical Trials Group meeting in D.C. almost exactly a year ago. Five HIVers shared a bathroom, and between us we stocked an amazing pharmacopoeia encompassing virtually every treatment, mainstream or "alternative," known to medical science — and, perhaps, a few yet arcane to its official practitioners. My stash, although bulky, proves insufficient and it takes one last midnight call to Walgreen's to secure enough Bactrim to last through our projected stay. At sunrise we leave leave Lotusland, pass through SouthWest Land, and end up, dazed and disoriented, in Hell.

In all fairness, Chicago isn't usually this bad, even in winter. This is one of the coldest days since I left the Windy City almost a decade ago. I try not to read too much into this. Steve's brothers meet us at the airport with the family's spare T-bird. Opening its door is major exercise, and it handles like a battleship, to Steve's dismay. Were there always this many cops in this city? They seem omnipresent now. The other drivers on the road seem incredibly stupid and

piggy, but it may be the limitations imposed by their own over-sized vehicles — Hondas are as scarce as hen's teeth. After a couple of days, Steve will begin to drive more and more like them; what other option is there in a car that has a lot of power on the straightaway but so little ability to maneuver? It's an apt metaphor, perhaps, on America's role in the world; I try not to read too much into that, either.

Day eight

It's what I call "the HIVer hour" at Lady's, the local coffee shop where you can get two eggs, sausage bursting with fat, excellent hash-browns, and two freshly homemade biscuits all for less than the cost of a double latte at any of the Castro's trendier cafes. Only a block from Andy's place, we made a beeline for it on our second day. As its weak coffee took effect, I began to notice something interesting about our fellow patrons in the sunny front room. All were pretty obviously gay; most were early-middle aged and vaguely professional looking; and none looked particularly healthy.

And what were these men doing loitering so lazily over breakfast on a weekday? Like me, they're queer PWA retirees packing calories. I felt more at home already, no small accomplishment in this city which, considering that it's the major Gay Urban Mecca (GUM) between the coasts, almost completely lacks any visible Queer presence.

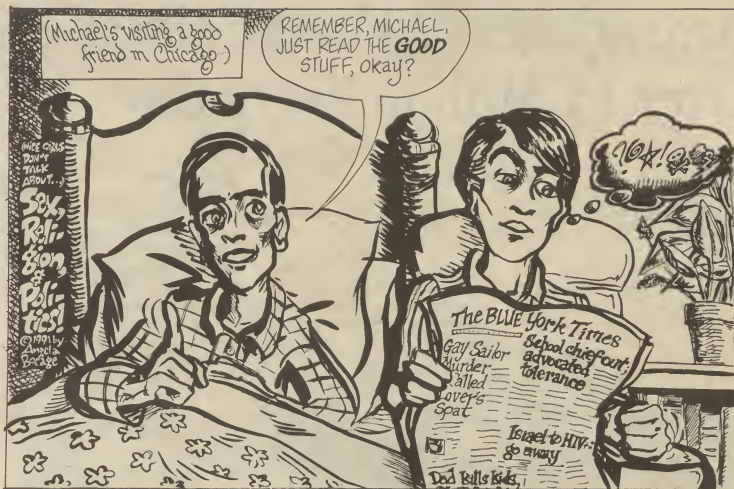
Steve is back at Andy's place: if he packs calorie for calorie with me he'll burst his seams. Plus I need to get out of the house occasionally, to peek out of that strange timeless bubble of a household waiting for inevitable but delayed death.

For Andy was supposed to be dead and cold by now. In the hospital his red blood cell counts dropped so dramatically that, without daily transfusions, he was expected to fall into coma and organ failure in two or three days at the most. He decided that life, at this price, was a poor bargain and left St. Joe's to let nature take its course.

And damned if his blood counts didn't stabilize rock-steady the moment he got home! For several days he enjoyed this modest "bounce" and cheerfully entertained his family, friends, and co-workers, saying good-bye and tying up loose ends. But the crash came soon after, and now he's bed-bound, morphine-dazed, and waiting for death.

Occasionally I read to him; the stones of Jack London or the *Times* — the latter being a habit I picked up from him. I recite the headlines and then go into detail on the stories that interest him. At first this encompassed quite a lot, including all the voluminous coverage of the World Trade Center bombing. We agree that, despite the fantastic luck of catching the man who delivered the dynamite, most of the conspirators have escaped and that the state actually has a very weak case against those they do hold.

Now his circle of concern has shrunk to little more than



the obits and an occasional "family slasher" story (e.g., the woman who went on national TV to tearfully ask help finding her missing daughter and who has just been charged with her murder). He did want to hear the latest on the murder of Allen Schindler, the gay sailor, but not about the expulsion of gays from the St. Pat's parade or the dismissal of New York's school chancellor for trying to include gay-positive

curriculum in the trade schools. Where, I wonder, do they hide the good news?

At least the weather improved, and I may have actually caught the brief, miss-it-if-you-blink, ten-day Chicago spring; the arctic landscape has been transformed. There are "Chicago specials" (deep puddles of slush with a light dusting of fresh snow on top, so that you think it's solid ground until you sink up to your ankles in icy water) and

the infamous "Chicago surprise" (several months' worth of dogshit and beer bottles previously suspended and concealed in multiple layers of snow, now suddenly combined and revealed).

But in the front yard, among the thawing detritus, there are also, impossibly, snow blossoms, pushing green shoots up directly through the melting snow. I try not to read too much into it; but it's hard, very hard. ▼

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Amendment 2 Costs Colorado Over \$1 Million Every Day

by Mike Salinas

Although bigots continue to insist that the boycott of Colorado has had no discernable financial effect, figures reveal that the state has lost over \$1 million each day since the passage of anti-gay Amendment 2. That's the latest word from the *Denver Post*, which has tabulated nearly \$151 million in lost

tourism revenue from November 3, when the ballot measure passed, to March 3.

So far, according to the *Post*, \$33.8 million of formerly "firm" convention bookings have been cancelled in Denver alone, with at least another \$1 million lost to cancelled Boulder conventions. On top of that, well over \$100 million of conventions with bookings in various stages of confirmation

— "reserved space," "pending signing," and "considering"—have been withdrawn, as has at least \$9 million that would have been pumped into the state's economy from various movie filming, all because of the passage of the explicitly anti-gay ordinance.

Typically, the areas that most strongly supported Amendment 2 are now least likely to acknowledge the state's loss of income: the same day the *Post* tabulated \$150.8 million in withdrawn revenue, the *Rocky Mountain News* reported the boycott was a flop. That paper, based in the geographical center of Colorado's anti-gay movement, has aggressively baited gays with editorials and editorial cartoons since Amendment 2 was first proposed. After the measure was passed, the *News* turned even more assertively anti-gay, running items that suggest — among other things — that all gays should be quarantined as a way of addressing the AIDS epidemic.



Colorado products being boycotted.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Celestial Seasonings teas are not being boycotted at this time.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Coloradans boycott Colorado

The most recent indications from Colorado are that groups from within the state are also joining the boycott. A February 25 *Rocky Mountain News* article reported that the Colorado Bar Association has decided not to meet in Colorado Springs for its annual convention — as it has done 71 times in the past 75 years — to protest the anti-gay sentiment there.

The *News* story reported that CBA representatives met with Colorado Springs Mayor Robert Isaac on January 14 to ask him to write a letter explicitly welcoming lesbian and gay members to the conference. Isaac, it is reported, responded, "Do you mean I have to invite the queers?"

Although at least three persons in the room reported hearing the remark, Isaac's public communication director refuted their version of the story, telling the *News* Isaac is "a publicly and politically correct person."

Even so, the letter Isaac sent CBA made no mention of lesbians or gays (or, for that matter, queers), prompting the bar association to move the convention away from Colorado Springs. The *News* quoted CBA president Wiley Daniel's estimate that the cancellation will cost the city as much as \$1 million.

Boycott of consumer goods

Meanwhile, the boycott has also spread to consumer items produced in Colorado. For the first few months after Amendment 2's passage boycott organizers focused on tourism, the state's greatest source of income, assuming it

would have the most noticeable impact. Now, however, those organizers are encouraging consumers to avoid purchasing items manufactured there.

Not everything with a "made in Colorado" label is under boycott: only those items made in counties that voted strongly for the anti-gay measure are specifically targeted. Those products include Teledyne Water Paks and Shower Massages; Jolly Rancher candies; Monfort meat products; and — as always — Coors beer.

For now, at least, Celestial Seasonings teas are not on the list of officially boycotted products, although a future action against the company is reportedly possible. Various news media have reported that ACT UP met up with officials of Celestial Seasonings in February, but the results of that meeting have varied from reporter to reporter.

It has been reported, even in the Bay Area, that ACT UP had resorted to "extorting" Celestial Seasonings with the threat of a boycott if the company did not demonstrate in a concrete way — meaning financial support of anti-Amendment 2 forces. However, *New York Newsday* quoted a vice president of the company who dismissed those charges as overblown, and says they are an attempt to deflect attention from the bigoted law by charging the gay community with an illegal act.

The company vice president indicated that she believed newspapers that reported the threat of ACT UP "extortion" are homophobic. ▼

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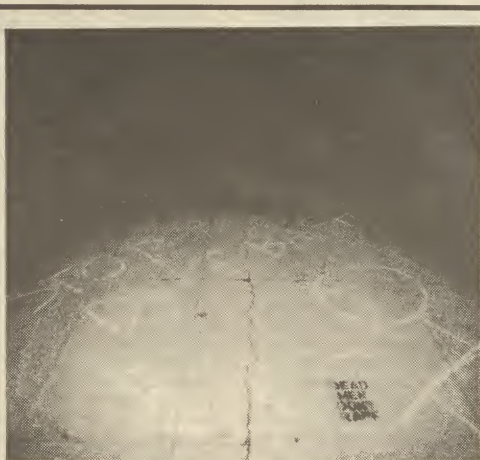


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International Women's Day

Protesters read the writing on the wall — of street — during a march for International Women's Day March 8. Over 600 turned out for a march and rally. (Photo: Judi Parks)

SFSU's Major Minor: Gay Studies

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco State University will become the first university in the 20-campus California State University system to offer a minor in bisexual, lesbian, and gay studies, beginning this fall.

The 24-unit minor includes courses offered through an interdisciplinary agreement that involved 12 of the university's departments and almost two dozen faculty, according to Dr. John DeCecco, a professor of psychology and human sexuality studies.

"It's an interdisciplinary program that includes courses from the psychology, women's studies, English, speech and communication, school of business and other departments, including history, biology and anthropology," DeCecco told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"Most courses are three units in a semester, so we're talking about eight semester-length courses. They are all upper division courses that students would be expected to complete in their last two years of classes," he said.

DeCecco said that the program complements the courses offered in the lesbian, gay,

and bisexual studies department at San Francisco City College, a local junior college.

"Actually, some of the impetus for our minor came from City College students who, after finishing their studies there, moved over to San Francisco State University and wanted a full program."

The minor is the result of almost two and a half years of effort on the part of lesbian and gay faculty and students and was supported by the SFSU administration.

Because the minor is interdisciplinary and primarily uses faculty from within existing departments, approval for the program could be granted by the university administrators after faculty review.

"There was a great deal of support for the program," DeCecco said. "A survey two years ago of almost 700 students showed that 80 percent supported the proposed minor and 150 students said they would consider taking the minor. I assume that most of them were bisexual and lesbian or gay students, but we knew that some of the students who said they would take the courses identified



Faculty coordinator of the bisexual, lesbian and gay studies program at San Francisco State University John DeCecco (second from right) with students Maureen Egan (left) Brian Kurtz and Joshua Keels.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

themselves as heterosexual.

"And the administration was remarkably supportive."

Part of the human experience

"Academic approaches to homosexuality have been primarily through the study of history and the humanities, but course work in the SFSU minor expands the approach to include the arts, education, social sciences, biology and business," DeCecco said.

Course offerings in the minor include such topics as gays and lesbians in the work-

place, relationship issues, gay identity, sexuality, and homophobia. Other courses are more academic and research oriented.

"Some of the courses have a practical bent, such as issues in communication, problems of sex roles and gender, and the problems of taking on a gay identity," DeCecco said.

"The subject of sexual orientation is an appropriate one for academic discourse," said Richard Giardina, associate vice president for academic program and planning at SFSU. "It's important that it be studied as part of the hu-

man experience and not sensationalized."

DeCecco told the *B.A.R.* the program began as an adjunct to gay political activism on campus, and that many activists had been involved in the push for the minor.

"But right now, we don't have much politics, the activism seems to have died down: everyone's too busy socializing or studying," he said.

San Francisco State University is also the site of the Center For Research and Education in Sexuality and the 25-year-old *Journal of Homosexuality*. ▼



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CUAV Reports More Anti-Gay Violence

by Dennis Conkin

There was a shocking 94 percent increase in the number of reports of anti-lesbian and gay harassment in the San Francisco area last year, according to a report released today by Community United Against Violence.

That startling figure is just one of the grim statistics in the annual report of the anti-violence agency.

The figures were released in conjunction with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's annual report, which shows that hate crimes against lesbians and gays remain a serious problem across the nation.

With 435 reported incidents of harassment and violence reported in San Francisco last year, according to CUAV Program Director Guillermo Pena, at least one gay person a day is victimized by hate violence.

"We need to emphasize that a majority of the crimes do not get reported to police, and only 50 percent are reported to us," Pena told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Pena noted that police only received 164 reports of anti-gay violence last year.

According to the statistics, 227 cases of anti-gay verbal harassment were reported, a 95 percent increase over the 117 cases reported in 1991.

There were 243 cases of physical assaults, including thrown objects, reported for the year; 223 were reported in 1991.

Also included in the annual statistical report were 21 cases of anti-gay physical and verbal abuse by police reported, down from 1991, when there were 31 reported cases.

Although harassment is up, the number of cases reported to the agency decreased, but CUAV notes those incidents included multiple offenses.

A total of 596 offenses were reported in 1992 — as compared to 473 for last year — including 26 cases of vandalism, one murder and four sexual assaults.

Of the 530 victims involved in the 435 incidents, 395 were gay men and 119 were lesbians. An ethnic breakdown of complainants reveals that 364 were filed by people who are white or European, 21 were filed by African-Americans, 11 were filed by Asian/Pacific Islanders, and 36 were filed by Hispanics.

The statistics were gathered as part of the national "Count and Counter Hate Crimes" campaign that calls for a greater community effort to track and resist anti-gay hate violence.

The key elements of the campaign are documenting harassment and violence

against sexual minorities, educating sexual minorities on how to resist violence, and advocating for official action against anti-gay violence.

"With the amount of exposure the lesbian and gay community [have now] with the issues of gays in the military and the Amendment 2 movement, we have to defend ourselves and speak out against bigotry," said Pena in a statement. "This visibility has triggered hostility and violence from individuals forced to deal with their own homophobia."

Pena encouraged lesbians and gay men to learn self defense, carry anti-violence whistles, and form neighborhood or street watches as a way to effectively counter the violence. He also called for local and state police around the country to increase anti-violence prevention and education programs, and to be required to collect statistics on hate crimes.

According to the 1992 statistics released by the NGLTF, Portland, Oregon, reported 968 incidents of anti-gay violence during 1992 and New York City reported 662 incidents.

The Task Force also reported that 204 incidents of anti-gay violence were reported in Colorado, home of the anti-gay state constitutional Amendment 2. ▽

CUAV Community Watch



Cara Page of CUAV's Domestic Violence Project (Photo: Judi Parks)

One in Every Four

by Community United Against Violence Staff

Abuse and domestic violence can — and does — occur between women. It has been estimated that one in every four lesbian/bisexual relationships are battering relationships. But too frequently female-to-female violence is often seen as simply 'a fight' or 'mutual abuse,' and not as a violent relationship between a batterer and her partner. But the truth is, in all battering relationships one partner is clearly physically and emotionally coercive and violently dominating over the other.

To confront this crisis effectively we need to be able to name that violence. The denial and lack of awareness in our communities has silenced women who have been battered by their female partners. Lesbian/bisexual domestic violence has also been made invisible by domestic violence services that have traditionally been heterosexist and not equipped to deal with the complex issues of lesbian/bisexual battering.

In direct response to this pressing need for awareness and education about domestic violence in our communities, Community United Against Violence (CUAV) will be creating and coordinating a Lesbian & Bisexual Domestic Violence Project. The San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women has funded this pilot project to do the following:

- Develop and implement a Needs Assessment Survey to assess the need for more direct services that are sensitive and support lesbian and bisexual women;
- Do more extensive outreach and education to the bisexual and lesbian community in conjunction with Woman Inc.;
- Conduct and coordinate

outreach materials and activities that will be specific to the support needs of bisexuals and lesbians of color; and

• Provide crisis and short term counseling and referral.

In conjunction with Woman Inc. and other domestic violence services, CUAV will be mobilizing our communities to build this project and give more attention to the problem of domestic violence.

To be effective and cross-cultural in its outreach, CUAV is looking for ideas for the name of this project. One of the current suggestions is "B.L.O.C.K.: Domestic Violence" (for "Bisexuals & Lesbians Organizing Community Knowledge About Domestic Violence"). Please call Cara Page, the Lesbian Domestic Violence Project Coordinator, at (415) 777-5500 if you have any suggestions or comments about a name and/or logo for the project.

CUAV is also looking for lesbians and bisexual women who are committed to this issue and are interested in being on the Volunteer Lesbian & Bisexual Domestic Violence Project Advisory Committee or volunteering to be a DV Community Educator. Please inquire immediately.

It is time we look at the problem of battering in our community and name it for what it is — violence. The lesbian and bisexual communities do not transcend the capacity to have abusive and battering relationships. We also do not transcend the responsibility to name it and change it. In our society, where violence and hatred against women constantly influences images of ourselves, we cannot escape the violence and abuse we perpetuate on ourselves and each other. If you don't think this issue affects you or your community, find out how you can *be in the know* — because domestic violence affects all of us. ▽

CUAV is a non-profit agency that works to prevent hate violence against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons and promotes personal and community safety. The agency also provides counseling, advocacy and referral to people who are bashed or who are battered in same sex domestic violence. For services or more information, call (415) 777-5500. If you are bashed or battered and need help, call our 24-hour CrisisLine at (415) 333-HELP. The agency's offices are located at 973 Market Street, Suite 500, San Francisco.

OPERATION



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Fighting for Our Lives, Fighting for Our Future

Join gays and lesbians across the country
March 23-March 29 as our community mobilizes
to overturn the military's ban against us.

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(between Hyde and Leavenworth) Civic Center Muni/Bart

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Human Rights Campaign Fund

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Generously supported by the Castro Village Pharmacy

CUAV Seeks New Director

by Dennis Conkin

A national search is underway for an executive director for Community United Against Violence, a San Francisco organization that provides counseling and other services to victims of anti-gay violence.

"My role as transitional director has been to work with the board and staff to chart a new course for the agency. It's now time to find an individual who will work with the board to navigate and steer," acting executive director Michael Thompson told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Thompson, a former member of the CUAV board, was appointed acting director of the agency last August after the sudden resignation of then director Barbara Cameron.

Cameron resigned "for personal reasons" amidst charges that she mismanaged the 14-year-old agency. Shortly thereafter, revelations surfaced that the District Attorney's Office was considering cancelling a grant to the agency because it had failed to adequately account for expenditure of the funds, or provide statistical information about the clients in the programs the grant funded.

The agency, which has an annual budget of \$350,000 a year, was also under fire from activists who charged that it was out of touch with the needs of the community.

"We've systemized the financial and administrative functions so we are able to be in compliance with all of our



Rosa Hernandez, CUAV hate crimes client advocate

(Photo: Judi Parks)

governmental contracts; we've established a stronger programmatic structure with more staff support and clear lines of staff accountability; and we've repaired and improved relations with all of our funders," Thompson said.

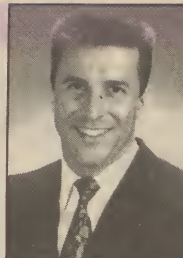
Turning the grassroots agency around "was a lot of hard work," he said, but worth it: the agency is now stabilized and developing into a "reliable, consistent and strong community institution," he told the *B.A.R.*

Requirements for the position of executive director, which pays \$32-38,000-a-year, include a degree in public or nonprofit administration, business, public health, or social work health (or equivalent experience), and a minimum of four years progressive responsibility in nonprofit

management, fundraising, and public relations experience.

The agency serves more than 400 victims of hate crimes yearly and also provides counseling and advocacy to gay male survivors of domestic violence. CUAV also provides prevention and education programs that include training of law enforcement professionals in lesbian and gay sensitivity, safety monitoring for community events and a speaker's bureau that educates high school and middle school youth to dispel myths and fears about lesbians and gays.

For applications or more information contact CUAV at 973 Market Street, Suite 500 or call (415) 777-5500. The application deadline is March 15. ▼



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Horn sworn in

Attorney Tom Horn was reappointed to his post as president of the War Memorial Performing Arts Commission for another six-year term at a swearing-in ceremony March 10 in Mayor Frank Jordan's office.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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all of the changes
we've made as
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TB

(Continued from page 1)

in the lung cavity. Fever, sweating, chest pain and weight loss are the common symptoms. If untreated, TB spreads to other organs, often the kidneys and liver, and causes internal bleeding. It has been estimated that most Americans have come into contact with TB, but only people with suppressed immune systems or repeated exposure are likely to develop the disease.

Just eight years ago, the United States had the lowest tuberculosis rate in its history. But since then, the disease has staged a deadly comeback and is targeting people with AIDS with a vengeance.

This burgeoning crisis is nowhere more apparent than San Francisco, where the TB infection rate is five times the national average and total cases have increased 25 percent since 1984. With only 0.3 percent of the population, the city is home to more than 1.5 percent of the nation's TB cases, an infection rate second only to New York City.

Last year, 334 San Franciscans were diagnosed with TB, 109 of whom were PWAs. According to Albert Smith, director of the Lung Disease Programs for the American Lung Association, most of the other TB victims are illegal immigrants, IV drug users, and the homeless.

Because of their weak immune systems, PWAs are more than 100 times more likely to contract TB than healthy people, said Gisela Schecter, director of TB Con-



Health workers Sandi Ocegueda (left) and Christopher Zanca deliver medicine to the home of a patient in the Hunter's Point district. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

trol in San Francisco. Many people, she added, don't even know they are a PWA until they get sick with TB. Last year, the chance that a PWA would contract TB was one in ten, a figure that is almost certain to rise. The homeless and prisoners are also especially susceptible, sheltered as they are often in overcrowded quarters with poor ventilation. Also, illegal immigrants are increasingly arriving in the country with TB.

Blaming the victims

The process of blaming gays and PWAs for the TB crisis began in 1989, when the New York City Health Commissioner at the time,

Stephen Joseph, suggested that HIV-infected individuals should be quarantined to control TB. (He lost his job soon after these remarks.)

This year, on the February 11 edition of CNN's *Crossfire*, right-wing commentator and former Republican presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan said TB was a sufficient reason to deny HIV-positive immigrants access to the United States.

Placerville, California, doctor William Catrell, Jr. suggested to *Newsweek* magazine last April that if AIDS patients had been quarantined and their sex partners traced in the beginning, then there would be no TB epidemic.

"Risks should be taken to minimize their risks to society," Catrell said. "Microbes like HIV and TB observe no civil rights."

And in Kansas, the Baptist minister Fred Phelps, who received nationwide notoriety in late 1991 after crashing five memorial services for AIDS victims, ran for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate on a platform of quarantining all HIV-positive people and TB patients. With this platform, he received 34 percent of the primary vote, coming in second.

Some civil rights activists have said that occasionally quarantining a few TB patients might be necessary. What worries them is that the practice could spiral out of control.

"We have to make sure TB is not used as an excuse to quarantine people," said Ben Schatz, executive director of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights. "It must only be used as a last possible resort for a sick person who is uncooperative and refuses to take medicine. The problem is that TB is different from HIV in that you can't casually contract HIV."

Gerard Lenoir, executive director of the Black Coalition on AIDS, said he is worried the religious right is orchestrating a campaign to get all HIV-positive people quarantined because of TB.

"There's always been this specter of the right-wing wanting to quarantine the HIV-positive," Lenoir told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "and there's the chance that they might get their way through the guise of TB. We need to make rational decisions, and whenever a person is quarantined it must be looked at very carefully."

The issue of quarantining has become so troubling that the American Civil Liberties Union, OSHA, and the California Medical Association still haven't released positions on when — or even whether — it is appropriate to isolate a TB patient. But spokespersons for each group have said the subject is being researched.

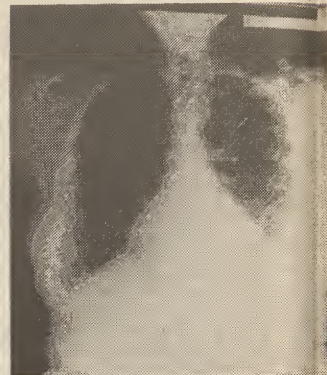
Two kinds of TB

Tuberculosis is classified in two categories: active and inactive. People with inactive TB are carriers of the disease but may never get sick. The only way for those apparently

healthy people to know if they are TB carriers is by taking a skin test.

When a person gets sick, the diagnosis is changed to active TB, and the patient must take up to ten antibiotics each day for between six months and two years to be cured. If a person fails to complete the drug therapy the disease often returns, resistant to many kinds of medication. In those cases the mortality rate is greater than 50 percent, compared to 5 to 10 percent for those who finish therapy.

For a PWA, an active TB diagnosis is often a death sentence. Although many "recover" from the disease, their lungs remain permanently scarred. PWAs who have developed active TB will likely suffer repeated bouts of pneumonia and other pulmonary



infections until they die.

A vaccine, called DCG, does exist for TB, but has not been used since the 1970s. Smith, of the American Lung Association, explained it is because it is only effective on about half the population. Worse, once a person takes DCG, a TB skin test becomes ineffective.

TB has struck the African-American community especially hard. Sixty percent of all TB cases are among African-Americans; the rate of TB infection in Harlem is now greater than in Sub-Saharan Africa. Lenoir told the *B.A.R.* that blacks have had higher incidence of TB throughout the nation's history.

"If you look at any major



Health care workers Sandi Ocegueda (center) and Christopher Zanca deliver medicine as part of the city's Daily Observed Therapy program.

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--Jim Duggins, Professor of Education, San Francisco State

The Dream Lodge Experience- In response to demand we have added a second Spring workshop (May 21-23). Due to the intense nature of the work, enrollment is limited to 15 people. The workshop will be held at Isis Oasis Retreat Center in Sonoma County. The cost of a life-transforming weekend, including accommodations, meals and the Dream Lodge Experience is \$250.00 (after May 1 all workshops will cost \$290) A deposit of \$100.00 is required to secure your reservation.

Spring Workshop:
Friday-Sunday, April 2-4, 1993

Spring Workshop:
Friday-Sunday, May 21-23, 1993

Summer Workshop:
Friday-Sunday, July 9-11, 1993

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disease, African-Americans have always been hit hardest," he said. "If you look at TB, cancer, heart disease, and others, [African-Americans] are always affected disproportionately. It has to do with the history of racism in our country. What we have to do to get TB under control in the community is have massive outreach and education programs. We must work with the homeless to get them tested and treated if necessary."

San Francisco is unusual in that the 56 percent of the TB cases are Caucasian, while nationally the rate is 23 percent. African-Americans and Hispanics both account for 18 percent, Asian-Americans make up 5 percent, and other ethnic groups comprise the other 3 percent.

The San Francisco approach

The city's TB control program has been praised nationally for its innovative approach to treating and tracking the disease: for instance, San Francisco case workers go out to make sure patients are taking their medication every day. However, the TB clinic's stellar reputation might have more to do with self-promotion than the work it performs. In press releases issued by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the American Lung Association, they frequently cite themselves as having a "model TB program."

One such press release, from November 24, 1992, said that in San Francisco, "97 percent of patients complete drug therapy. ... By comparison, 89 percent of TB patients at Harlem Hospital do not complete treatment."

This is untrue, said Dr. Angus Sampath, director of diagnostic studies at Harlem Hospital in New York. When contacted by the *B.A.R.*, Sampath said that no such study of Harlem Hospital existed.

"I don't know how they can say that, because nobody has ever done an accurate study," he said. "They just made that up. If I had to guess, I'd say at least 80 to 90 percent of our patients complete therapy."

Furthermore, 97 percent of TB patients in San Francisco

could not have completed drug therapy because six percent died of the disease, according to the Health Department's own statistics.

The Division of TB Control also broke patient confidentiality laws twice during the course of this investigation. On two occasions, when a reporter from the *B.A.R.* called the TB clinic anonymously and said he had had sex with a person with TB, the clinic gave information about specific patients over the phone.

Schatz said the breaching of confidentiality is unethical and illegal.

"We don't even condone doctors gossiping with each other about patients, let alone giving information over the telephone," he said.

In addition to its current troubles, the TB clinic may also soon face financial troubles. Despite the increasing number of TB cases, San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan has not approved any additional funds for the clinic. During the Bush administration, the amount of federal spending on TB decreased from \$20 million to \$7 million.

TB is already straining AIDS budgets. AAPHR, the Public Health Research Institute, the American Foundation for AIDS Research, and the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, among others, have pulled millions of dollars earmarked for AIDS treatment, and used it for TB programs.

Locally, organizations such as Project Inform, Shanti Project, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation are having their employees regularly tested for TB at a cost of up to \$100 for each test. California Representative Henry Waxman recently issued a press release calling the lack of federal TB funding "public health malpractice."

Most experts agree that the burgeoning TB epidemic is going to get worse before it gets better.

"We're sitting on a ticking time bomb," Schatz told the *B.A.R.* "And it's just a matter of time before it explodes." ▼

Another Bay Area Reporter Clip 'n' Save Feature: 1993 March on Washington Events

Everyone in the lesbian and gay community is looking forward to the March on Washington, right? But if there is any fly in anyone's ointment — other than Jesse Helms's, naturally — it is the age-old concern, "What will I wear?"

Since it's impossible to pick and pack a suitable wardrobe without prior knowledge of the events, the *Bay Area Reporter* is printing, as a public service, the most complete list yet known of MOW-associated soirees, galas, shindigs, hoe-downs, dances, shmoozes, and assorted other gatherings of the tribes.

And here they are for:

Wednesday, April 21

Legal Documents Workshop

Sponsor: National Center for Lesbian Rights
Contact: Liz Hendrickson or Stephanie Smith, 415-621-0674

Historical Exhibit

Sponsor: One In Ten
Contact: Thomas Ham, 202-319-7208

Lobbying

Sponsor: MOW, NGLTF, HRCF, Mobilization Against AIDS

Contact: Eric Rosenthal, 202-628-4160, or Marla Stevens, 202-332-6483

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change — Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Holiday Inn, 3400 Ft. Mead Rd., Laurel MD
Contact: Ruth Heidelbach, 301-490-6735

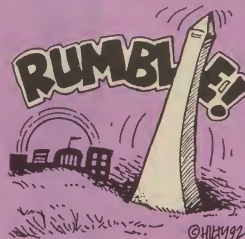
Thursday, April 22

AIDS Cure Now Demo — ACT UP

Location: HHS Building, 10 a.m.
Contact: Jim Hill, 414-483-0376

National Bear Gathering

Location: Lincoln Memorial, 12 noon
Contact: John Runyan, 206-624-1195



Legal Documents Workshop

Sponsor: National Center for Lesbian Rights
Contact: Liz Hendrickson or Stephanie Smith, 415-621-0674

Historical Exhibit

Sponsor: One In Ten
Contact: Thomas Ham, 202-319-7208

Lobbying

Sponsor: MOW, NGLTF, HRCF, Mobilization Against AIDS
Contact: Eric Rosenthal, 202-628-4160, or Marla Stevens, 202-332-6483

People of Color Lobby Briefing

Contact: Mandy Carter, 202-628-4160

NMAC Congressional Dinner

Sponsor: NMAC
Contact: Anita Taylor, 202-544-1076

Candlelight Vigil

Location: Holocaust Museum, Rachel Wallenberg Plaza, 8 p.m.

Next week in the *B.A.R.*: The events of Friday, April 23. Look for it! Collect them all! Swap with your friends! ▼

NEIGHBORHOOD HERO



Saluting Volunteers Who Make A Difference

"Steve Wilson is a hero, plain and simple. When we needed leadership and direction he was there...150% there! As a long time volunteer and member of the board, Steve literally dropped everything this past winter to help us in our crisis, giving sometimes more than forty hours per week of his time over the last four months. His talents, dedication and selflessness have helped assure our continued service to the community."

Project Inform

Through a toll-free hotline and various publications, *Project Inform* has been providing the latest in HIV treatment information since 1985. Serving over 60,000 people around the country who are affected by HIV and AIDS, *Project Inform* is also a leading national advocate for access to treatments for all who are living with HIV. If you would like to join our family of more than 200 volunteers, please call (415)558-8669.

Neighborhood Heroes is sponsored by
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4122 18th Street, San Francisco (415) 434-8600



da (center) and Christopher Zanca (right) watch a patient take his TB medication. (Photo: Rick Gerhartner)

VACCINE STUDY FOR HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE

If you are interested in participating in a therapeutic vaccine trial and you are HIV-infected with:

1. T-cells above 600
2. Never been on AZT
3. In good general health
4. Female or Male age 18 - 55

Please call: Mary Payne, R.N.
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco General Hospital
AIDS Clinical Trials
476-9296, extension 84601

Have your T cells dropped below 500?

If you're HIV positive and feeling pressured by the need to make plans for staying healthy, we can help.

You have questions. We have answers.

The UCSF POSITIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM is a study offering a free group program to help with making hard decisions about stress, health and living with HIV.

Participants receive free medical lab work.

If you are an HIV positive gay man with a T cell count between 200 and 500 call

415 597 9141

UCSF POSITIVE EDUCATION PROJECT

FEELING DOWN?

HIVCare at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Announces Patient Recruitment for the Following Studies:

HIVCare

Clarithromycin vs Placebo

For people with fewer than 100 T4 cells and a negative blood culture for MAC. The study provides life-long MAC cultures and routine laboratory testing. Clarithromycin is provided at no cost to patient.

DaunoXome vs Combination Chemotherapy (Adriamycin, Bleomycin and Vincristine)

For people with Kaposi's sarcoma and at least 5 untreated lesions. DaunoXome is provided at no cost to patient.

Itraconazole vs Fluconazole

For people with AIDS-related cryptococcal meningitis. There are two studies, one for treatment and one for maintenance to prevent relapse. Itraconazole and Fluconazole are provided at no cost to patient.

Oral 882C87 vs Oral Acyclovir

For people with acute localized herpes zoster (shingles). Patients must receive drug within 72 hours of rash onset. 882C87 and Acyclovir are provided at no cost to patient. Patients will receive an honorarium for study participation.

For more information about these and other studies contact HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

National News

Infighting Wracks Ventura County Lesbian/Gay Community

by Karen Ocamb

A complicated power struggle is reaching its peak in Southern California's Ventura County. At the center of the controversy is Claire Connelly, president of the non-profit Gay & Lesbian Resource Center (GLRC), who charges that leaders of other local organizations are out to ruin her. They, on the other hand, counter that Connelly has had a controlling influence over the Ventura gay community for too long and, while she may be sincere, she is not always truthful.

As GLRC executive director since 1986, Connelly has been Ventura County's most visible gay person. A disability pension affords her the ability to volunteer full time at GLRC where she administers meeting space, referrals, and a number of the support programs. But as a volunteer, Connelly cannot be "fired," and past GLRC board members complain she runs the board of directors.

A full-fledged feud broke out two and a half years ago when Neil Demers-Grey says he was forced out of his position as secretary/treasurer on the GLRC board. But in a February 13, 1993, letter to a local newspaper, Connelly framed the issue differently, accusing Demers-Grey of attempting "to take over" the agency "when he failed to win election to our board of directors."

Former GLRC board member Bob Brown disagrees. "In my opinion, [Demers-Grey] was improperly removed from that elected office," says Brown, who resigned in protest. "You don't arbitrarily make up stories to have someone thrown out of office. Boards don't act that way." Subsequently, Brown says, Connelly made "accusations" about him that were "serious enough for me to go to an attorney." Brown says Connelly later signed an agreement acknowledging that there was "no basis for the accusations."

When Edie Brown assumed directorship of AIDS Care last June, the feud flared up. Brown also heads the national organization that grew out of the Southern California Women for Understanding which Connelly, a member of SCWU, calls a "lesbian-separatist group."

"It's all over money," says Connelly, referring to county grant money she claims must now be split between the two agencies. Brown, she charges, is trying to "increase her empire from lesbians to AIDS because that's where the money is. She wants to use AIDS as a powerbase for her own personal agenda—power and money. She is a megalomaniac who uses fascistic tactics."

But Brown disputes that the conflict is between the two agencies over money. She points to last August's GLRC board meeting where she, Demers-Grey, and other members of the Lesbian and Gay Alliance, a newly formed coalition of 20 groups, called for Connelly's resignation and demanded that GLRC expand its board to include other community leaders. Connelly refused.

"It was like a corporate take-over," Connelly says. "They are out to destroy my career and push me out of the way. ... If they succeed in [getting] what they want, AIDS will swamp everything. All [GLRC's support] programs will die."

Connelly charges that the Alliance sent her a registered letter "forbidding" her participation in an Alliance-sponsored county-wide conference February 27. However, Brown says the letter never "banned" Connelly, but rather said that since Connelly had "failed to take corrective action" in opening her board, the Alliance "did not feel she could be a productive member" of the coalition.

Since "The Gathering," Ventura lesbians and gays have either run for cover or chosen sides.

"It's just politics and games," says Joe Pansa, a for-

mer GLRC board member who resigned because he could no longer take the stress of the Alliance's constant attacks on Connelly. "Claire's gotten an unfair shake. She's really in it to help the community. Who else would do this for free?"

But for the handful of Connelly supporters, there are even more critics.

Demers-Grey charges that while he was board secretary/treasurer, Connelly didn't let him work on the agency's books. Connelly also told him to stop going to gay bars, "implying promiscuity and that GLRC would be tainted with my promiscuity, he says."

Catherine Houchins, pastor of MCC in 1986, remembers that when she served on the GLRC board two years ago Connelly wouldn't give out the names of local gay bars for fear that gay men who came up from Los Angeles "might spread AIDS." Connelly, she says, "has no compunction about fabrication."

Reverend Judy Dahl, the current pastor of MCC Ventura, concurs. "She's very inconsistent," Dahl says. "She's kind, dear, present one minute; the next minute she posits the church in a negative aspect. She says things that are not true." On March 2 the MCC Ventura board voted to withdraw Connelly's church membership based on the belief that Connelly has demonstrated "conduct unbecoming a member."

Meanwhile, Connelly has dropped the words "gay" and "lesbian" from the Resource Center's title and hopes to extend her outreach into other civil rights areas. And the Alliance is launching a new Gay and Lesbian Community Center that activists hope will help resolve the years of tension.

"I would just like to move on," says ACT UP/Ventura's Sal Fuente. "We have a lot of great things going at this new Center. It has a good potential for everyone to come together and not feel left out." ▼



A last goodbye

SF police officers give their final salute to Officer Mark Guglielmo, a 10 year veteran of the force who died from complications of AIDS. At far left is chief Anthony Ribera, one of nearly 30 officers who attended the service.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

35,400,000 Now Without Insurance

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Another 726,000 Americans joined the ranks of those who do not have health insurance in 1991, increasing the number of the uninsured in the United States to 35.4 million, consumer advocacy groups said Monday.

The number of uninsured Americans increased from 33.4 million in 1989 to 34.7 million in 1990 and to 35.4 in 1991, according to the consumer groups Public Citizen and the Physicians for a National Health Program.

"We are witnessing the breakdown of the private health insurance system in America," said Dr. Steffie Woolhandler of the Physicians for a National Health Program, a Chicago-based group that endorses a health care system like Canada's.

"These figures are only the tip of the iceberg, since higher co-payments and deductible expenses, the growing exclusion of coverage for preexisting conditions, and the parallel growth of underinsured Americans means a catastrophic failure of the health care safety net," she said.

The increase in the num-

ber of Americans who do not have health insurance has been accompanied by an increase in the number of Americans enrolled in Medicaid, the government-sponsored health program for the poor, the groups said.

Since 1989, the number of Americans who joined Medicaid increased by an estimated 5.2 million, the groups said.

"State and federal governments are scrambling to compensate for the breakdown of the health insurance system by expanding Medicaid," Woolhandler said.

"Unfortunately, Medicaid coverage is often coverage in name only, providing care that is little better than that received by the uninsured," she said.

Dr. Sidney Wolfe, director of Public Citizen's Health Research Group, said the increase in the number of uninsured has been accompanied by increasing health care costs.

"The continuing collapse of private health insurance has been accompanied by unprecedented increases in health care spending," said Wolfe, who co-founded his Washington-based group with consumer advocate Ralph

Nader.

Hardest hit by the loss of health insurance have been Hispanics and African-Americans, the groups said.

Nearly 32 percent of Hispanics and 21 percent of blacks were uninsured in 1991, and blacks represented 57 percent of those newly uninsured. Even among those with family incomes above \$50,000, more than one-fifth of

Hispanics and one-sixth of blacks were uninsured.

Overall, the number of people earning between \$25,000 and \$50,000 who have no insurance rose by one million in 1991, the groups said.

Nearly 90 percent of the increase in the number of uninsured in 1991 were concentrated in five states. In Texas, 186,000 lost their insurance, while the numbers were

134,000 in Indiana, 120,000 in Florida, 107,000 in North Carolina and 103,000 in Massachusetts.

President-elect Bill Clinton has pledged to make health care reform a top priority of his administration. Clinton has called for a "managed care" system that retains private health insurance but ensures health insurance for everyone. ▼

Hundreds of Florida AIDS Tests May Have Been Wrong

United Press International

FORT LAUDERDALE — As many as 1,200 Broward County residents may have been given inaccurate results from AIDS and diabetes tests conducted at three public clinics, county officials claim.

"I don't want to alarm the residents, but we will be in touch with these patients and ask them to come in for further testing," said Carolyn Graham, Broward's human services director. "I will be honest and tell them that we've had some problems with the lab that we have been using."

In August, the county began random studies of tests performed by the Hollywood Diagnostics Center, with whom it contracted in June to handle tests for low-income and indigent residents.

Graham told the Fort

Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel* that an average error rate for labs testing blood and urine is five percent, but that county investigators found nearly one-third of the results from Hollywood Diagnostics to be flawed.

The lab canceled its contract without warning last month.

Lab spokesman Pedro Rodriguez claimed the move had nothing to do with the county investigation, but rather that the county owed the company \$200,000.

"They screwed up because they didn't follow the contract, and now they're lying, doing whatever they have to do to cover themselves," Rodriguez charged.

The county has since contracted with two other laboratories to replace Hollywood Diagnostics.

Graham said the 1,200 peo-

ple who may have been given false results attended public clinics in Fort Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, and Hollywood. At least half of the suspect cases were tests for the HIV virus, which can develop into AIDS.

County officials were first alerted to a potential problem when an unidentified Fort Lauderdale woman reported she had been misdiagnosed as being HIV-positive in July.

She told the *Sun-Sentinel* she spent two months believing she had a terminal disease, but at the urging of friends, had two more tests done by private doctors. Both results were negative.

Graham said her staff would begin trying to contact those with suspect results.

"It is a matter of life and death," she said. "We are committed to straightening this out." ▼

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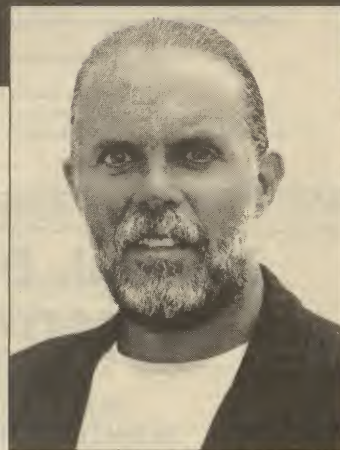
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Lyon-Martin's Women's HIV Group: 'A Lot of Support — And the Right Kind'

by Nancy Boutillier

Yolanda Jones and Dorothy Bartolomucci met at the support group for lesbians with HIV, held weekly at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. Sometimes, Dorothy and Yolanda are the only two attending the support group with Naomi Prochovnick, the HIV counselor.

When the *Bay Area Reporter* interviewed the two women together, both felt that denial was one of the main reasons more HIV-positive lesbians do not attend the group. "I would like it if more lesbians showed up for their lives — because I know they are out there," said Dorothy, adding "They're in some kind of denial — that's why they are not in that room on Monday nights. I know I was in denial. And I know what it took for me to show up for my life."

Showing up for their lives is what Yolanda and Dorothy do every day, but they also show up for each other every Monday night. "I come because I know Yolanda might be there, and maybe she needs me," said Dorothy. "I've gotten a lot of information from Yolanda."

Yolanda values the safety and trust she feels at Lyon-

Martin's group. "I feel so comfortable that I can talk about anything. Sometimes, I don't want people to know me, but with Dorothy I feel I can say anything and it won't go further. I can talk about my private self, and I can trust Dorothy not to spread my business. She gives me a lot of support, and it's always the right kind."

The level of security and honesty that Yolanda has found at Lyon-Martin contrasts with her experiences at other support groups. "When I go to AA meetings, and I see women in couples, and then I hear them bring up their addictions, I wonder to myself, how many of them are infected? I've never heard anyone say they're positive, and I know one out of 50 besides myself has to be. So, I don't talk about it. I don't share with those women. When I go into a meeting, I want to be able to talk about everything, and I don't want anyone shooting darts at me when I say I'm HIV. And I can't be sure I'm going to get compassion from these women."

Most of all, the two women value each other. "If the group stays just Dorothy and me forever," said Yolanda, "that would be okay with me,



Dorothy Bartolomucci (left) and Yolanda Jones, who participate in the Lyon-Martin's Women's HIV Group.

(Photo: Nancy Boutillier)

too." A smile and nod of agreement from Dorothy confirms that the feeling is mutual.

And, as their stories unfold, it becomes clear that by finding a safe place to talk with one another, both women have grown more committed to taking their stories outside the group. And the messages contained in their stories are powerful.

Both Yolanda and Dorothy have remarkable and inspiring stories of recovery from their drug addictions. Yolanda, 33, native of San Francisco, African-American woman, and mother of three children, has been in and out of trouble with the law for the past ten years, serving time in prison

and on probation. She started smoking marijuana when she was 13, free based in her early 20s, and started using heroin after her first stay in prison.

Dorothy, 38, a computer technician from New York, had put herself in a very different world. However, her big accounts didn't keep her from a drug habit of her own. While she never ran into the legal system, she had plenty of other obstacles to overcome before arriving in San Francisco two years ago.

From prison to pride

Today, in telling her story, Yolanda can look back at her trouble with the law in the late 1980s and say, "They had me where they wanted me. Well, that's the way I used to think of it, but it was actually where I had put myself."

When a prison doctor told Yolanda in 1989 that she had tested positive for HIV, she had little initial reaction to the news. "I wanted him to be able to tell me something I needed to know. And he wasn't able to do that. All he knew was that he wasn't going to be the cause of panic or riots starting on the yard, so he locked me up in the infirmary," said Yolanda. "I hardly knew what being HIV meant. There was no literature, and I had scarcely heard about AIDS."

Yolanda was restricted to the infirmary for 12 days without phone privileges, exercise, or information. Then, "in the dark hours one morning," she and another inmate who had also tested positive were whisked away to California Institute for Women (CIW) and placed in the AIDS ward there.

When released from prison, Yolanda discovered a whole new system that needed navigation — the health care system. She found support and information at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. People referred her to doctors who could give her a diagnosis, social workers, counselors, and, eventually, to Lyon-Martin for a support group, where she met Dorothy.

Obtaining access to the AIDS network and health care system did not automatically help Yolanda recover from her addiction. She continued using heroin while telling her friends of her HIV status. Looking back, Yolanda could only shake her head in the amazement and sadness that friends who knew Yolanda to be infected continued to

ask to share her works, even when there was no bleach available to clean them.

Within two months of her release from prison, Yolanda was before a judge again. This time she faced a possible three-year sentence. Yolanda refused to see her drug addiction as a problem and hoped that she could hold out for a lighter sentence. However, when a reduced sentence was not forthcoming, she agreed to the only available alternative — a drug treatment program called Walden House.

Yolanda resisted the Walden House thoroughly. "For the first three months I fought everything it stood for," she said. When she realized that she could make the program work for her without an internal commitment to kicking her habit, Yolanda began the path of least resistance. While still in what she now calls her "jail house mentality," Yolanda decided to "do what I had to do to get by" and began acting "as if."

"I acted as if I believed," she said. "I stopped fighting back because I convinced myself 'this is my program, I'm setting the rules. I'm just here because the judge sent me here. I didn't come here to make friends.' In the streets, I had learned to run by myself. I didn't want to depend on nobody for nothing."

"That was all well and good for a while, but then I started liking people," Yolanda paused and repeated herself, as if still surprised by the result. "For the first time, I started to like people." And it didn't take long for an attitude change to follow, and soon Yolanda found herself to be a role model to others in the program.

The day of our interview, Yolanda had spoken to the Lyon-Martin "Voices and Choices" HIV prevention project for public housing in the Western Addition. She reported with a reserved sense of pride that people seem genuinely moved by her story. And, while admitting to a nervousness around public speaking, Yolanda seemed eager to take her story to others. "I want the information to get out there, especially in the black community. If I had had more knowledge in my community, then I might have prevented myself from getting infected."

Yolanda also wants "to show that I'm not ashamed of the fact that I'm infected or that I have AIDS. People know me, and maybe that will lessen their fear. We have to get the information out there."

Becoming an activist

Dorothy is equally committed to getting information out there. "The more information I've gotten," she said, "the more of an activist I've become. Coming out of my own denial has allowed me to give more and more."

Dorothy can recall her own fears about AIDS when she was living in New York in the early 1980s. When news of the disease circulated in the lesbian community, Dorothy resorted to the only protection she could understand at the time — her fear. "I just stayed away from the men. I stopped sitting on toilet bowls. I stopped drinking out of glasses in gay bars. I was clean and sober then, and I stopped going to any meet-

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

ing that the gay men were in. I didn't dance with them. I stuck with the women, believing I'd be safe with lesbians." She recalled the twist of Jerry Falwell's AIDS-as-divine-retribution equation that lead logically to the conclusion that lesbians were the chosen people. "So many lesbians were so sure we wouldn't get this disease," said Dorothy, adding, "and I believed them."

When Dorothy relapsed after eight years of being clean and sober, she started sniffing cocaine and eventually began shooting it up. Her knowledge and fear of AIDS kept her from ever sharing a needle.

Then, after an overdose in a shooting gallery, Dorothy woke up in New York City's Gracie Square Hospital only to find that she had been beaten up and raped. Six months later, blood tests showed that she was HIV-positive.

She went from there to a halfway house where her doctor told her, "I hate this disease, and I'm not going to lie to you: you're going to die." Looking back, Dorothy seems outraged by their resignation. "This is what he told me. I never had any hope. I couldn't talk about it to anyone. I was devastated. I felt dirty and ugly because I was infected."

The Pride Institute, a drug and alcohol treatment center for lesbians and gay men in Minnesota, is where Dorothy finally found hope. "They told me it wasn't a death sentence. They were the first people to say, 'You're not going to die.'"

From Pride Institute Dorothy got on her feet at a gay halfway house in Los Angeles and was working again as a computer technician. A year and a half later, she convinced her company to transfer her to San Francisco.

However, after three months of getting off to what she felt was a strong start at her new job, Bartolomucci was told by her boss that her company had decided not to finalize the hiring. "He was so mad at me because I had a pre-existing disease and I'd never told him and how they'd wasted their three months with me and had all these accounts invested in me. ... And, I guess he couldn't handle it." So, after three months in a new city, Dorothy found herself without insurance or a job.

Fortunately, she also found Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services. "I told them I had no money, no job, no health care, but that I was infected and needed AZT," said Dorothy, recalling that Lyon-Martin took care of her needs.

After her first few meetings at the HIV support group, Dorothy accepted an invitation from Rita Shimmin, director of HIV Services at Lyon-Martin, to attend a women's HIV conference in San Diego, and a whole new world opened up to her. "I got full of so much information about how little the world knows about women and the HIV disease. On the spot, I became an activist," said Dorothy.

Among the many groups that have invited Dorothy to speak about her experience are ACT UP, a regional nurses' association, and a local strippers group. She and her lover also spoke on a panel at the National Gay and Lesbian Health Conference.

Dorothy's message is always the same: lesbians get



Yolanda Jones

(Photo: Nancy Boutiller)

AIDS too, protect yourself and your partners, get tested, and, perhaps most of all, get out of denial.

Dorothy attributes some of the denial to the statisticians, recognizing their failure to document the number of lesbians infected with the virus. "We're never going to be counted," she lamented, and for that reason she is even more insistent that sexually active women get out of their own denial.

"Women won't even get tested and they're sleeping with other women," Dorothy said, shaking her head. "How do they know where their partners have been for the past ten years? Women think they're immune, but they're having unsafe sex. Do we all have to die before something happens?"

Dorothy's own experience with women suggesting unprotected sex with her despite her acknowledgement of her own infection is all the evidence she needs to know the denial of risk is real. Furthermore, she insists that lesbians who have slept exclusively with other women and have never used IV drugs have tested positive.

"I want to reach people to let them know they are at risk," continued Dorothy. "I want them to know there's a safe place to come — Lyon-Martin. I want to reach the young women out there, who are out there who are experimenting with each other, with men, with drugs. My peers told me I was immune to it, and now young lesbians are hearing the same thing. I want to say, 'No, you are not immune. Wear rubbers when you are experimenting with men, protect yourselves with women, and don't share needles. We are not the chosen people.'"

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services offer primary health care, including primary early intervention HIV care, HIV nutritional counseling, case management and referral services to all women, with special outreach projects targeting lesbian and bisexual women as well as African-American women living in Western Addition public housing.

While a number of city testing programs are losing funds, Lyon-Martin provides anonymous HIV antibody testing services.

In addition to the weekly support group for HIV-positive lesbians, a group for female partners of HIV-positive lesbians meets on a weekly basis. For more information on any of these services, call Naomi of Lyon-Martin HIV Services at (415) 565-7683. ▼

Community News

Vaccine Volunteers Still Very Much Wanted

by Dennis Conkin

Although a March 8 media blitz about the lack of volunteers for clinical trials of Gp-120, an AIDS vaccine, has resulted in more than 300 calls from prospective subjects to a local physician participating in the trial, more are still needed.

"The response has been overwhelming," said Joseph Robinson, who coordinates the trial for Dr. Marcus Conant, "but we're so swamped, we haven't even had a chance to pre-screen the callers yet."

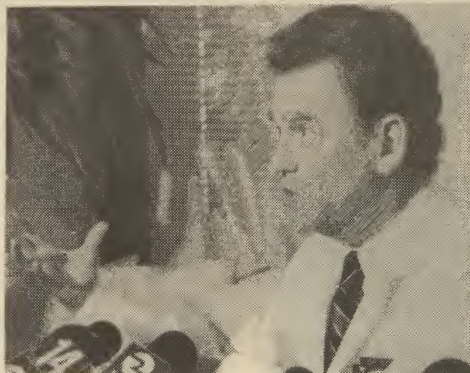
The Genetech vaccine is being tested at 19 sites around the country, including Conant's Clinical Trials Unit and San Francisco General Hospital.

Before the massive media focus on the lack of volunteers, the two sites had found just 22 people who were eligible to participate in the trial.

Even now, despite the "overwhelming response" by the press that highlighted the trial's plight, still more volunteers are needed.

"We may screen 20 people and just come up with three who are eligible, but we're willing to screen as many as needed," Robinson told the Bay Area Reporter.

The trial seeks 150 HIV-positive volunteers who have T-cells counts of at least 600,



Dr. Marcus Conant

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

who are asymptomatic, and who have never had prior anti-viral treatment drugs such as AZT, ddI, or ddC.

Robinson said that the other sites around the country were also having difficulty obtaining eligible subjects.

"Everybody has had only 10 to 20 percent success on subjects, some a little bit more, but it's been really bad," he said.

Now, though, Conant's office is having trouble handling the phone volume because so many people have called to say they want to enroll.

"But that's great: we'll take as many people as we can get and anything that we have left over, we're referring to San Francisco General Hospital. We had hoped for 50 subjects but we'll take 75. They're looking for about 100 at San Francisco General," Robinson said.

Participants will receive regular medical check ups and lab studies at no charge during the three years — the length the study is expected to last.

For more information, contact Conant's office at (415) 923-0222. ▼

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Obituaries

Dennis James Walker, R.N.
March 20, 1951 - March 6, 1993

Dennis passed away after a short battle with AIDS-related lymphoma at St. Francis Memorial Hospital. At his side were his lover, Walt, many friends, and his parents, Bob and Elana (from Ohio), who were able to spend their son's last two weeks with him.

Dennis was well known in our com-

munity, and best known for his quick-witted humor. Originally from Columbus, Ohio, Dennis moved to San Francisco in 1981. A registered nurse, Dennis worked at St. Francis Hospital Emergency Room.

Dennis had a special gift for taking the ordinary and making it extraordinary. The perfect host, he was always giving and never taking. He was gracious, warm, considerate, and made everyone feel his home was their own.

Remembrances may be made in Dennis' name to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF 94110. A celebration of Dennis' life will be held at his home in Twin Peaks, 587 Burnett Ave., #8, SF, on Friday, March 12, 1993, beginning at 3 p.m.

I will always remember the fun, the laughs, and the talks. I love you Dennis. —Dante. Mousematizing you was such great fun. I will always love you. —Walt ▼

Ben Jeffrey Maddox
May 27, 1950 - Feb. 8, 1993

On February 8, 1993, Ben completed his journey on this earth after a long battle with scirrhosis of the liver. Those eyes, that smile, that happy personality are now bringing joy once again to Carlton and so many other friends that preceded him on his journey to a peaceful,

happier place.

Since July of 1978, when Ben first ar-

rived in San Francisco, he touched and bettered the lives of many, many people. Ben was an important part of my life for over five years. His zest and appreciation for life taught me how to live. Ben's beautiful voice, which graced many theatrical performances both in San Francisco and his native Louisville, Kentucky, is greatly missed.

A part of you lives within me and so many other people who you touched in your time on this earth. For that, I am eternally grateful that you were and always will be a part of my life.

Goodbye, Ben. Charlie, Deborah, and all of your friends who were your family here miss you. ▼

Michael Ritter

Nov. 14, 1948 - Feb. 25, 1993

Our friend Michael left us on February 25.

Michael gallantly fought AIDS for over five years, but Michael's courage and strength had been evident to all who knew him long before he was forced to make this final battle.

Michael was born somewhere in the Midwest on the exact same date as Prince Charles and was certain that there had been some strange cosmic mistake that gave him his humble beginnings compared to his royal contemporary. Michael was committed to a mental hospital at 17 for being gay and checked himself out on the day he turned 18. He immediately turned away from his repressive youth and began his event-filled life.

Michael was a nomad. He viewed the world with wonder and lived to wander through it. His favorite artistic expressions were open doors and windows which were representative of the openness of his soul.

Michael moved to Washington, DC, and began making friendships that lasted a lifetime. Of all his accomplishments, Michael was most proud of: (1) Living in Israel for a number of years and serving in the Israel Defense Forces. (2) Receiving his GED, going on to graduate from college and becoming a practicing RN for over eight years. (3) Living as a clean and sober alcoholic for over 15 years.

As for the loving friends Michael made before and after he moved to San Francisco in 1981, his greatest accomplishments were his ability to be there when needed as a true and non-judgmental friend. He will be painfully and deeply missed by his sister Kathy and his friends, including Patricia, Paul, Brent, Scott, Peter (who called him by his Hebrew name - Doniel), and Byron, whom Michael started on his road to sobriety, and who will always remember him with great love and affection as "the Nurse Ritter."

Part of Michael's remains will return to his beloved Israel and part will be scattered with the remains of his lover Gary, who died four years ago. Michael never stopped hating the disease which killed him and never stopped loving the friends that were with him to the end. Oh, what might have been but for HIV ... ▼

John Standish Doyle

July 3, 1941 - March 4, 1993

Our friend, John, a kind and gentle man, peacefully passed on to a higher plane and into God's arms early on the morning of March 4, 1993.

He died of AIDS complications. John is survived by his loving family: his mother, Sally Price of Florida; his sister Julie Terraciano and his nephew Jeffrey, both of Oakland; his brother William of Michigan; his closest friend Tim Johnson of 29 years, of San Francisco as well as many other friends around the country.

Dear John, you will never be forgotten and remain with us in spirit forever. Now my friend, it is time to rest.

A celebration of his life will be held Sunday, March 14, 1993 at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, 1600 Clay Street (at Larkin) at 5 p.m., followed by a brief reception. In lieu of flowers, please make your donations to Coming Home Hospice, 1390 Market St., #510, SF 94102, or to your favorite AIDS organization. Call 567-9512 for more information. ▼

Bob May

Nov. 9, 1947 - March 2, 1993

Bobby died at his apartment after a two year battle with AIDS. He is survived by his parents, Bill May and Helen Stout of Dallas, and his friends who loved him, Daniel, Jerry, Fernando, Ray, Steve and Lee.

Bobby is remembered for many things that became his trademarks. During his 12 years in San Francisco, he maintained his unmistakable Texas accent and tremendous pride in Dallas and Texas. His black Jeep that he kept spotless, his extensive wardrobe, and his beautiful apartment all demonstrated his style and creativity. His work in display for several stores allowed his creativity to be shared by many people throughout California and Texas.

He will be missed by those of us who loved him and cared for him. His loss is especially hard for his two constant companions — his cats Cinnabar and Pasha.

A celebration and remembrance of Bobby's life will be held Sunday, March 14, from 2-5 p.m. at 3590 21st St., #202. Contact Daniel at (510) 532-2239 or Jerry at (415) 641-0101 for more information. Those who so wish may make a contribution to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF, 94110, in memory of Bobby. ▼

from Silverlake to West Hollywood. He built and restyled furniture for Brigit Fonda, Drew Barrymore, Peggy Lee, fashion designer Michelle Lamy, and many others. His work appeared in *Metropolitan Home*, *LA Style* and the *Los Angeles Times Sunday Magazine*. With the help of his devoted sister Rosemary and brother Tony, he continued to run his Santa Monica Blvd. business even after losing his sight in September 1992, and enrolled in classes at the Braille Institute that would help him continue in his chosen career.

He amazed and inspired all of us with his absolute courage, strength, determination, and silent suffering.

Felix is survived by his parents, Felix Sr. & Rosalie, sisters Yolanda, Gloria, Margaret, Sandra, Rosemary, Sylvia, Rita, Angelica and brother Tony.

Felix is mourned and terribly missed by his friend and lover of four years, photographer Richard Sullivan of Los Angeles, his best friend, designer Alex Lopez, his friend and caretaker, Stewart, and dozens of others.

I, Richard Sullivan, would like to pay special tribute to Felix's remarkable family, who bestowed on me the most precious gift they could ever give ... the entire family left the room shortly before the end to allow Felix and I a last chance to lie together alone, for me to tell Felix goodbye, and to let him know how much I will always love him. ▼

Ron Brecks

March 3, 1993

Ron was a ray of sunshine who

brought a smile to all who knew him. Kindness and a good time was something he gave to all his friends who will sorely miss him. After a brave bout with cancer we lost our ray of sunshine to a sunrise and sunset. He is survived by a mother, sister, brother and a score of friends in the Bay Area for 20 years. Services will be out of state with family.

Our love will be with you. "Until we meet again." ▼

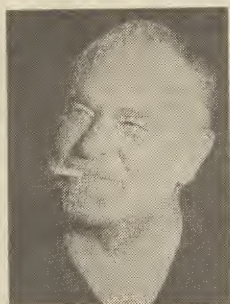
Felix Rodriguez, Jr.

February 21, 1993

Felix Rodriguez left us a little after

9 p.m. on Sunday, February 21, 1993. He died quickly and much too soon, in the Palmdale, CA, home of his sister Yolanda, surrounded by a large and loving group of family and friends who found tremendous comfort and support in each other on that dismal and forlorn day.

Felix deservedly attained success in the past two years upon moving his furniture and upholstery and design shop



Dick Petroff

1937-1993

Dick passed away on the 1st of March after having three heart attacks while returning from a vacation in Mexico. Ben lived life to its fullest with quality and genuine caring for others. This is the way he celebrated the joy that is life.

Born in New Jersey, he finally made his way to San Francisco. His first job was for Bill Plath at the D'Oak Room on Divisadero. He was immediately popular as one of SF's friendliest bartenders. Charlotte Coleman and Peggy Foster then recruited him to work the Golden Cask on Haight St., then it was on to the Mint on Market Street for 12 years, Gilmour's at Hyde and California was privileged to have him on the planks for the last 14 years of his life.

During his years in S.F., Dick was very active in community services as one of the original organizers of the S.F.T.G. He served two terms on the Board of Directors and one as Treasurer.

There will be services on Saturday, March 13, at 3 p.m. at Old St. Mary's Church on California St. A celebration of Dick's life will follow at Gilmour's at Hyde and California at 4 p.m.

Dick is survived by his sister, Virginia from Washington and many, many friends.

Contributions may be made in Dick's name to the Godfather Fund, 525 Castro St., #225, SF 94114. ▼



his nephew Jeffrey, both of Oakland; his brother William of Michigan; his closest friend Tim Johnson of 29 years, of San Francisco as well as many other friends around the country.

Dear John, you will never be forgotten and remain with us in spirit forever. Now my friend, it is time to rest.

A celebration of his life will be held Sunday, March 14, 1993 at Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, 1600 Clay Street (at Larkin) at 5 p.m., followed by a brief reception. In lieu of flowers, please make your donations to Coming Home Hospice, 1390 Market St., #510, SF 94102, or to your favorite AIDS organization. Call 567-9512 for more information. ▼

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Obituaries

Timothy Erich VonHalkind 1964-1993

On Friday, February 12, 1993, the spirit of Timothy Erich VonHalkind passed from this world into the Summer Land. Although Erich was diagnosed HIV positive in 1985, he was healthy until the end of January when he was admitted to SF General with PCP pneumonia.

Erich was, in many ways, the kind of person we should all like to be. He was feisty, energetic, intelligent, hard working and had a wicked sense of humor. He was also caring and sensitive, always willing to listen to the problems of others. Although Erich was an adept empath and the emotions of others left their impressions upon his own psyche, he never shrank from relationships and felt that love and friendship were the greatest gifts that one human could share with another. In addition to the gay people in his life, he loved and celebrated the straight men and women who shared friendship with him. Overcoming unpleasant childhood and military experiences, he learned to celebrate himself and his gay sexuality.

As a Second Degree Witch, he was known as Ort Myrdynn Skaldson. In pursuing his spiritual vocation, he had undertaken strenuous mental, emotional and physical training, completing nearly three years of work in only ten months. Erich knew he had little time and was not about to waste any of it.

Erich grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana, and entered the Air Force in 1982, immediately after completing high school. Honorably discharged in 1983, he came out of the closet and refused to be pushed back into it. With encouragement from Dick Gayer, Erich moved from Philadelphia to San Francisco in late 1991 and marched with other pagans in the Gay Freedom Day Parade in 1992.

Erich is survived by his mother, Nancy, father Wesley, and brother Jeffrey. Others who will find him irreplaceable include Dick Gayer, Lupe and David of the California Pacific Bears (who remember "Counsel Bear"), and (in the Philadelphia area) the Motherchant Coven led by High Priestess Barbara Barus (aka Maeve Rhea), with Kristy (aka Kyria) and Kathy (aka Aelfigfa).

A Pagan Rite of Release for Erich was conducted on Saturday night, February 27, 1993 by Maeve Rhea (who wrote this obituary). ▽

Joel Perrin Busiek 1938-1993

Joe died peacefully in the early morning hours on February 4, at Ralph K. Davies Medical Center.

He was born in Dorchester, MA, and grew up in Massachusetts and in North Carolina. He moved to San Francisco in the late 1960s

and lived here until his death, working primarily in food and beverage quality control. He worked for Lucky Lager, Standard Brands and, at the time of his death, Shasta Beverages.

Joe's loves were the outdoors, gardening and photography. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his mother, Dorothy Busiek, two sisters and three brothers as well as many loving friends. For additional information, please contact Stefan Vergnes at (415) 647-7990. ▽

Steven J. Graham April 4, 1955-March 1, 1993

Steven passed away after a long struggle with AIDS. For the last several years he made a full-time job of taking care of his health and educating himself about his illness and current treatments.

He spent his early years growing up in Ithaca, NY, and later in Springfield, Missouri. He attended school at the University of San Francisco and at Peter Kaump's Cooking School in New York City.

Steven was proud of his six years of continuous sobriety in AA and Al-Anon and will be missed by many members of meetings that he attended who were treated to his unique way of communicating.

He loved the arts, especially theatre. His idea of heaven was one of his perfect creme brulees, or spending hours creating other taste treats in the kitchen. He was a true intellectual and not a little eccentric at times, but he always remained open to new ideas and the opinions of others.

He was grateful for the loving support of his mother, Maxine Graham, especially during his last months. He is also survived by his sister, niece and nephew, Susan, Cassie and San-Fran, all of Springfield. He was preceded in death by his father, James S. Graham.

A celebration of his life will be held at Most Holy Redeemer Church on Saturday, March 13 at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF 94114, or the MHR Support Group. ▽

Kenneth Ahlstrom

Ken passed away on the morning of March 1, 1993 after a long illness. Until he became too ill to work, Ken was the manager of the Russian River Resort in Guerneville, and took great pride in being the River's answer to Leona Helmsley! Before becoming manager he terrorized the resort for several seasons — both the guests and the owners — as the "Waitress from Hell!" We will always remember him for what he was: high-energy and fun-loving, always "on," and someone with the most wonderful and outrageous sense of humor. If anything was going on, Ken was either in the middle of it, or the cause of it! He was a good friend and we will miss him a lot.

For Ken and those who have endured as he did:

"And God shall wipe away their tears. There will be no more sadness, no suffering, and no pain. And what once was, will be gone forever."

Love, Dennis and Buggs. ▽

Jon Shorey

July 13, 1949-Dec. 21, 1992

Jon Shorey passed away the afternoon of Monday, December 21, at Davies Medical Center in San Francisco. He had been ill with the AIDS virus for approximately a year. His family from Massachusetts were with him during his last days.

Many of his dear friends spent time with him prior to his passing.

Jon was born in Hanover, Massachusetts, July 13, 1949. He attended high school in Hanover and graduated from Curry College with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

He moved to San Francisco in the late '60s. He was a visual merchandiser for Bryant Forney Associates for nine years. In July of 1989 he set up his own business as a merchandiser and consultant for an Accessory and Lamp Group of Manufacturers with offices and showrooms in the Western Merchandise Mart in San Francisco.

Jon was a rare kind of man and friend. He touched us all with his professionalism and kindness. A good friend, we will miss his smile and caring warmth.

He is survived by his mother, Dorothy; his father, Phillip; sister Donna; and brother Ron; as well as nephews and nieces to whom he was very close.

Goodbye for now dear friend, rest in peace, knowing we will always miss and love you.

There were no services in California. His family took Jon home to Hanover where private services were held. ▽

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▽

National News

Law School Trashed; Police Suspect 'Pro-Lifers'

United Press International

HARRISBURG — Police say that vandalism at the Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle was possibly related to a February 9 visit there by the Supreme Court justice who wrote the *Roe v. Wade* abortion decision in 1973.

Vandals dumped red paint in a school library, stole a painting and scrawled a biblical reference on a table, just hours after a speech by Justice Harry Blackmun, the *Harrisburg Patriot-News* reported February 11.

Carlisle Police Chief Steve Margeson said "there's certainly a good possibility" the

vandalism was related to Blackmun's visit and speech. Dickinson spokeswoman Deb Ryerson agreed.

"It just seems more than a coincidence that this would happen at the same time [as the Blackmun program]," Ryerson told the newspaper.

Ryerson said the paint was dumped on a carpet in the library, and that a portrait of a former law school president was taken.

In addition, the words "John 3:16" were painted on a table.

In the King James Bible, the verse reads: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that

whoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Ryerson said the damage probably occurred during the early morning hours February 10 and was discovered when workers arrived later that day.

Several dozen opponents of abortion had picketed outside the auditorium where Blackmun spoke, as did a number of supporters of abortion rights.

The organizer of the anti-abortion pickets denounced the vandalism and said the responsible parties "should be prosecuted as hard as they can." ▽

Educators, 'Pro-Lifers' Battle Over Sex Ed in Texas

by Suzanne Roberts

AUSTIN, Texas (UPI) — The head of a state panel proposing sex education guidelines warned anti-abortion activists February 16 to stop undermining its efforts to combat teen-age pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.

Larry Don Shaw, co-chairman of the Texas Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenthood Advisory Council, said the anti-abortion lobby is presenting his group in such a negative light that its pregnancy prevention recommendations to the Legislature may meet an untimely demise.

Shaw said the council supports sex education curriculum guidelines from kindergarten through high school that are "age-appropriate" and "scientifically valid."

Shaw maintained that the council is not endorsing any one curriculum and supports the concept of local control in actualizing the council's recommendations.

He cited the surge of teen-age pregnancies in the state, one of the highest in the nation, along with the ever-increasing incidence of HIV infection among young people as impetus for adoption of the guidelines.

But Bill Price, president of Texans United for Life — the state's largest anti-abortion group — said the council failed to engage "the leadership of pro-family and pro-life" in the recommendation process.

He said his group was "totally opposed" to the report, which he alleged demeaned the children of the state. Price declared, "We don't want children used as guinea pigs" in the development of sex education curriculums.

Price opposed what he termed "the sneak rule" whereby a school would "give anyone an excused absence to go to an abortion clinic and not tell their parents." He said, "As parents find out about these issues, they are enraged." ▽

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Even Boy Scout Leaders Don't Like BSA Policies

by Dennis Conkin

A recent wave of criticism aimed at the Boy Scouts of America's anti-gay policies, fired off by a member of the group's executive board, may be a sign that there is greater dissension — and disgust — about the policy among BSA brass than has been previously acknowledged.

Joe Velasquez, director of community services for the AFL-CIO and the labor representative to the 25-member BSA board, has condemned the anti-gay policy as "encouraging intolerance and discrimination."

The AFL-CIO has been long affiliated with BSA, but Velasquez has been severely critical of the group, which he derided in a recent press account for conducting a "negative campaign" against the United Way, which defunded BSA because of its anti-gay policies.

Velasquez's comments are notable because they follow the February 1 departure of Ben Love, the agency's executive director.

Although Love retired after decades of service with the group, there is growing speculation that he was forced out because of an increasingly angry board of directors faced with massive bad publicity about the

group's anti-gay actions, dissent from member troops over the anti-gay stance, and continuing unease about the organization's right-wing religious links.

Velasquez said the issue of allowing gay youth to join the group was a "straightforward issue of civil rights" and said that "a lot of board members" on the group's executive board believe the policy should be changed.

Several major corporate donors, including Levi Strauss and Wells Fargo Bank locally, have withdrawn funding from Boy Scout councils because of the policy.

The Bank Of America has been under fire — and was the subject of an unsuccessful attempt by San Francisco Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg to divest city funds from the institution because it announced it would defund the group last year but recanted, saying it had been assured BSA did not discriminate.

The same day the Bank of America announced it would resume funding, the BSA announced that its policies had not changed and gay youth were still unwelcome.

In a public relations disaster for the bank, the San Francisco Board of Education and the San Jose-Evergreen Community College District joined angry gays and les-

bians and their supporters by closing millions of dollars of bank accounts with Bank of America. Other agencies and institutions are expected to follow suit, according to local observers.

Velasquez's letter to new BSA Director Jere Ratcliffe raises interesting questions, said Ken McPherson, director of Forgotten Scouts.

Last week, a Boy Scout troop sponsored by 60 student groups at Yale University was given 30 days to repudiate the national policy or the student group would pull its sponsorship.

The Boys Scouts of America bluntly told the inner-city troop that if it even disagreed with the policy publicly it could lose its charter.

Even so, McPherson said San Jose Troop 260, sponsored by Good Lutheran Church, had already established a precedent for publicly disagreeing with the anti-gay policy and had not lost its charter.

And, McPherson wonders, if they throw out a troop for disagreeing, will the BSA try to take on the AFL-CIO?

"Joe Velasquez wasn't just sharing his personal opinion. His letter was the position of the AFL-CIO. Do they plan to try to de-charter the AFL-CIO?" he mused. ▼

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Meinhold

(Continued from page 1)

in which to raise our vote count from significantly less than 50 to 51," said Feldblum, the campaign's legal director.

"As much as I personally hate the substance of the compromise because it's practically the same policy with minor changes, that compromise is the lifeblood of this campaign," Feldblum told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Anything that would jeopardize the compromise would cause an early Senate vote that we could not win. Lots of people may not like the compromise, but it was necessary, given the politics of the situation."

Provisions of the compromise include: the military won't ask applicants questions regarding their sexuality; the Justice Department won't defend the anti-gay policy in court in regard to gay status alone, but it will continue discharging people found 'guilty' of gay conduct; and personnel already discovered to be lesbian or gay have the option of remaining on stand-by reserve, without pay or benefits, until a new policy is announced on July 15.

Although the compromise stops the Defense Department from discharging personnel based on gay or lesbian status alone, the agreement allows the military to continue processing such personnel toward a discharge so long as it stops short of an actual discharge.

This agreement is threatened, the Justice Department

said, by Hatter's ruling in the Meinhold case because Hatter ordered the military to stop all proceedings in discharges based on sexual orientation alone.

"What we're saying is that the opinion relating to Meinhold, if allowed to stand, would affect all the other outstanding cases and this in effect would interfere with the agreement that the president and the Congress have worked out to permit the Department of Defense to study this issue and then make its report," Justice Department spokesperson Joe Krovitsky told the *B.A.R.*

Krovitsky said the Justice Department is not seeking to change Meinhold's status at this time, pending the July 15 policy change.

Until Janet Reno is confirmed to head Justice, the department is being run by Acting Attorney General Stewart Gerson, a holdover from the Bush administration.

Meinhold said he doesn't buy the idea that the appeal is required to maintain the compromise.

"Unfortunately, if that was their only intention, they went about it the wrong way," Meinhold said. "I think they're way off the mark. I don't think we need to protect this compromise one little bit. The compromise sucks. I've always said it sucked; even the president, when he had to enact it, didn't like it."

"If you appeal a decision based on constitutional grounds — the constitution applies to everybody — they run a very bad risk of compromising me along with everybody else," Meinhold said. ▼

SF Gay Men's Chorus: Still Singing Positive

By Rene M. Astudillo

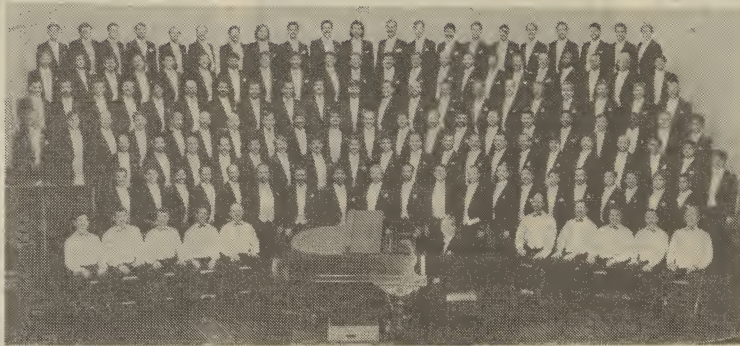
It was through an advertisement in the *Bay Area Reporter* last year that the French news agency CAPA first found out about the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. A production team at CAPA, headed by director Claude Chelli, Anne-Marie Bennoun, and Jerome Caza, wanted to film a documentary about AIDS and its effects on the gay community, and in reading about the chorus it seemed they had found their focal point. And so began six months of intensive work by the three, who followed the activities of the chorus and several individual members living with HIV/AIDS.

Cameras followed chorus members at home, during rehearsals, in concert, in the hospital, and at a memorial celebration for a co-member who had passed away.

Now a fully completed 55-minute video documentary,

Le Choeur les Hommes (English title: *Singing Positive*) has won a major film festival award in France and is receiving critical acclaim in Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, and other European cities. The documentary premiered in France November 26, on the prime-time newsmagazine show *Envoyé Spécial*, and has already won first place at the Festival International Production Audio-visual (FIPA), an annual competition among producers of television documentaries. More recently, it has been submitted for possible exhibition at the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival this June.

Singing Positive focuses on SFGMC members' pride in being with the world's first openly gay chorus, as well as the realities faced by those personally affected by the epidemic. Volunteer members opened their lives and hearts to interviews and videography, discussing, among other



San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

(Photo: Jann Cather Weaver)

things, their treatment protocols in combating their disease, and the pain of losing loved ones to AIDS.

In a recent interview with the *B.A.R.*, producer Bennoun said she was "overwhelmed by the public response to the film," a reaction she described as very positive and definitely one of compassion and understanding. "We wanted a different approach to address the issue of AIDS, and it worked," said Bennoun, a former New York University student who has been living in the United States for the last seven years.

The award-winning video film comes at a significant time for SFGMC: this year, it is celebrating its 15th anniversary. Frank Jackson, the chorus's executive director, traces its beginnings to a small group of gay men who sang at the steps of City Hall in

1978, when San Francisco mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were assassinated. By now its membership has grown to 160 singers and ten staff persons, all of whom share their time and talent on a strictly volunteer basis.

The chorus has not only managed to survive through the devastating effects of AIDS on its members and the larger gay community in San Francisco, but has also successfully paid off a quarter of a million dollar debt it incurred during its 1991 concert tour. That historic tour inspired the organization of other gay and lesbian choruses throughout the world—which have in turn formed an umbrella organization known as CALA, which holds an international chorus festival among its members once every three years.

At the CALA chorus festi-

val in Denver, Colorado, last summer, SFGMC dedicated its performance to its 110 members who had lost their lives to AIDS. Since Denver, more names have been added to the now familiar "In Memoriam" roster—a list the chorus must unfortunately update for each of its concert souvenir programs.

On March 27 at Davies Symphony Hall, the chorus, under the baton of its artistic director Dr. Stan Hill, opens its 15th anniversary season with a concert called "Brahms, Bernstein, and the Boys!" That will be followed by two other major concerts: at the Davies Symphony Hall in July, and at the yet unfinished Center for the Arts Theatre at Yerba Buena Gardens in December. Tickets to these concerts, as well as copies of the video documentary, may be obtained by calling (415) 863-GGPA. ▼

Santa Clara County Addresses Needle Exchange Question

by Dennis Conkin

A community-wide forum on needle exchange in Santa Clara County was held at the Santa Clara County Health Department on March 5. Panelists included a speaker from the Risk Reduction Task Force, a Santa Clara County underground needle exchange program that has swapped more than 2,000 clean needles for injection drug users' dirty ones since last July.

According to Amy Brinkman-Viall, a member of the AIDS Service Providers Network, an estimated 16 percent of the 1,000 reported cases of AIDS in the county are among intravenous drug users. However, Brinkman-Viall says she is skeptical of those figures, particularly the total number of HIV infection cases, which she calls "pathetically low," considering that "over 1 million people live in Santa Clara County."

"It's been the same statistic for years," she told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Injection use is also probably under-reported in the county, she said, and injections users are harder to reach with the AIDS risk reduction and prevention materials due to the "political climate" in the county and because of stereotypes and misconceptions about injections users.

Brinkman-Viall said that it is unlikely that Santa Clara County will declare a state of health emergency to legalize the distribution of syringes, as San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan has vowed to do. However, the County Board of Supervisors is on record unanimously supporting legislation that would allow California counties to create pilot needle exchange programs as part of a comprehensive AIDS risk reduction strategy.

That legislation was passed by the California Legislature last year but vetoed by Governor Pete Wilson. It was reintroduced last month by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. ▼

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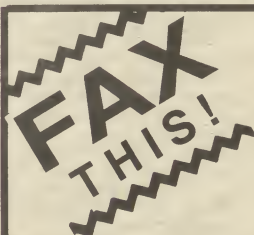
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National News



A GLAAD-sponsored screening of *The Gay Agenda* drew crowds to the Roxie Cinema.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

A Response to *The Gay Agenda*

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — A new organization calling itself the Gay and Lesbian Emergency Media Campaign is launching a nationwide effort aimed at neutralizing the effects of an anti-gay video which is making its way around the country and through the halls of Congress.

The anti-gay video in question, titled *The Gay Agenda*, was produced by a southern California conservative religious organization as an attempt to rally public sentiment against gay and lesbian rights laws around the country. The tape, which was recently distributed throughout the Pentagon as part of an effort to stave off the end of the Defense Department's ban on gays, is now turning up in the offices of several members of Congress.

Last fall, several thousand copies of the tape were reportedly distributed to voters in Oregon and Colorado to mobilize voters behind two anti-gay constitutional amendments in those states. On Election Day, the measure in Oregon failed while the Colorado proposal passed narrowly.

The tape is now being advertised on Pat Robertson's syndicated *700 Club* television program for \$13.95 via a 1-800 number. A similar tape including footage from several gay events around President Clinton's Inauguration is being offered to contributors to Jerry Falwell's *Old Time Gospel Hour*.

Calling *The Gay Agenda* "hideous hate propaganda," Ann Northrop of the Emergency Campaign screened both that video and a response tape produced by her group before a packed room of reporters at the offices of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The Gay Agenda shows a series of talking heads describing as fact a series of conclusions about homosexual activity. The speakers, passed off as experts on homosexuality in the tape, explain their view that homosexuality is not a "morally neutral" characteristic like race or religion and insist that it is instead a "chosen lifestyle."

Interspersed with the testimonials from the "experts" and "former homosexuals" is lengthy footage of Gay and Lesbian Pride parades from New York, Los Angeles, and

San Francisco showing scantily clad men in chain-mail G-strings and leather, topless women parading before children, men in various forms of outrageous drag and a sign that reads "God Is Gay."

Also featured prominently under an ominous soundtrack are tight close-ups of the "Models" classified ad section of the Los Angeles-based gay magazine *Frontiers* and several page-sized ads for 1-900 phone sex services. The camera allows viewers to clearly make out explicit invitations for sexual activity.

"These are not facts," Northrop told the reporters. "These are lies and distortions."

Representatives of the new gay organization say they have received reports that the tape is now circulating in several states where the religious right is now pushing new campaigns for referendum on the gay rights issue.

To counter the video's political effects, the newly formed gay group is now distributing its own film, titled *Hate, Lies and Videotape*. The quickly produced tape shows clips from *The Gay Agenda* and compares it to anti-Semitic Nazi propaganda films of the 1930s and racist videos distributed by the Ku Klux Klan.

To make its point about the insidiousness of the anti-gay tape, the gay film shows a huckster in Oregon distributing free copies of *The Gay Agenda* to passersby as part of the effort in that state to pass an anti-gay constitutional amendment there last fall.

The pro-gay film then cuts to footage from a recent documentary about the Klan in which KKK leaders explain to their supporters how an underground network of videotapes shown in private homes can bypass the efforts of the media to balance their message.

To show what the Emergency Campaign said were the direct effects of the anti-gay campaign, the gay tape also shows footage of a youth in Oregon openly extolling the thrills of gay bashing and features a recording of an obscene message left on a gay organization's answering machine in which a man says he wants to "kill a fag." The tape finishes with a lesbian detailing her experiences at the hands of such attackers and shows photographs of her injuries.

At the press screening,

speakers from the new group, anti-Klan organizations and a number of liberal and moderate religious groups denounced the religious right's anti-gay campaign, calling it a "demonization" of a group of people.

Loretta Ross of the Atlanta-based Center for Democratic Renewal charged that the religious right is forming a coalition with KKK and neo-Nazi groups to attack gay rights around the country. She called the conservative Christians "the ones that don't wear sheets."

While Northrop acknowledged that the hastily made film did not refute what she called *The Gay Agenda*'s "lies and distortions," she said her group would soon do so in a longer, more detailed documentary.

While *The Gay Agenda*, she noted, was "preaching to the converted" who already have negative feelings about gays and lesbians, what "terrified" her was the impact it could have on the "confused and misled."

To make that point, she pointed to exit polling done in Oregon on the ballot measure there. She asserted that survey showed that 70 percent of those voting for the failed proposal indicated that they were influenced by the *Gay Agenda* tape.

The gay leaders said that they will now distribute their new film to members of Congress, the media and the Joint Chiefs of Staff to counter the right wing's efforts to overturn President Clinton's expected executive order allowing gays to serve openly in the military.

Tanya Domi, lobbyist for the Task Force's Military Freedom Initiative, pointed out that sources have told her that *The Gay Agenda* is now making its way around the Marines' Camp Pendleton in South Carolina. Supportive individuals inside the Pentagon, she said, are "desperate" for copies of the new pro-gay tape as a tool to counteract the effects of the widely seen *Gay Agenda* video.

Besides producing and distributing the new tape and creating a more comprehensive one later, the gay organization said that it hopes to mobilize public support for civil rights for gays and lesbians through a series of television, radio, and print ads.

"We have got to win the battle for public opinion," said Northrop. ▼

GLAAD Media Watch

Compiled by Hollie Conley

You may recall a bizarre defense of discrimination against gays and lesbians by Thomas Sowell that appeared in *Forbes* magazine in December. It was hard to extract any logic from the piece, but Sowell seemed to be saying that as gays and lesbians gain too many civil rights they're flocking to college restrooms for sexual trysts, and that therefore they should be kept out of the military.

In the March 15 issue of *Forbes* Sowell was at it again, in a column entitled "Gay Bashing," with the sub-heading "Many of those trying to protect homosexuals are helping make them targets instead. Nobody likes teachers' pets." In his trademark writing style, Sowell jumped randomly from subject to subject, but the gist of his argument was that violence against gay men should be blamed on gay and lesbian activists and on the fact that society has made us into "sacred cows."

Sowell began by citing two recent physical attacks against gay men, then set out to explain the phenomenon. "Gay activists do not hesitate to engage in the most outrageous public behavior," he said. "Blatant disregard of other people's rights and feelings have become standard among activists who decry the 'insensitivity' of others." He closed the article by admitting that gay bashing, like gay activism, is a bad thing: "Gay bashing is not something that should be tolerated. But neither should gays be allowed to bash the rest of us when we dare to discuss their issues."

Along the way from start to conclusion were loads of startling claims, among them: "For years, public health policy on AIDS has been dominated by fear of offending the homosexual lobby ... [and not] to protect the public from AIDS carriers."

"Most people would have no occasion even to think about homosexuals — much less to develop a 'phobia' about them — if it were not for AIDS and gay activists."

"It is not a question as to whether you like or don't like ... homosexuals. The question is how their presence affects the morale and functioning of a military unit."

Of course Sowell has a right to his prejudices, and *Forbes* has a right to sell prejudice instead of information, but Sowell's perspective on lesbians and gays is currently the only one that *Forbes* is choosing to print. Please write them once again. If they're going to continue to promote Sowell's bigotry, they should include reasonable discussion of these issues — preferably by a lesbian or gay voice.

Write to James W. Michaels, Editor, *Forbes*, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10011.

The Atlantic

The cover story of the March issue of the *Atlantic* was a fascinating in-depth look at 30 years of scientific research into the causes of sexual orientation entitled "Homosexuality and Biology." The piece traced findings and research regarding sexual orien-

tation and sexual identity in various fields. Included were fascinating stories about everything from homosexual fruit flies to male rats who ovulate(!). The piece also reviewed the outrageous torture of lesbians and gay men carried out by American psychiatrists in the 1940s and '50s. Significantly, the article was written by a gay man, Chandler Burr, who stated his sexual orientation in the article.

Burr closed his piece by cautioning that we shouldn't count on science to overcome prejudice: "Five decades of psychiatric evidence demonstrates that homosexuality is immutable, and non-pathological, and a growing body of more recent evidence implicates biology in the development of sexual orientation. Some would ask: How can one justify discriminating against people on the basis of such a characteristic? And many would answer: One cannot. Yet it would be wise to acknowledge that science can be a rickety platform on which to erect an edifice of rights. ... The issue of gay people in America life did not arise in the laboratory. The principles needed to resolve it will not arise there either."

The Atlantic has hardly been at the forefront in promoting discussion of lesbian/gay issues, so this prominent and intelligent article should be supported. Write to William Whitworth, Editor, *The Atlantic*, 745 Boylston Street, Boston MA 02116, tel. 617-536-9500.

Daniel Schorr

Daniel Schorr, the long time reporter and commentator who currently serves as senior news analyst for National Public Radio, recently included some disturbing comments in a *Washington Post* column, which also ran in the *Oakland Tribune*.

The article dealt with the changing meaning of words, especially the word "zoo" (the Bronx zoo was recently changed to the "International Wildlife Conservation Park"). Schorr was bemoaning the practice of shifting a word's meaning on the basis of one's political perspective. Of course Schorr had to talk about the word "gay."

"I think of other words that become endangered species because of the way people misuse them. I have long mourned the loss of 'gay,' and the time one would quote, 'When our hearts were young and gay,' without getting involved in a Pentagon battle. Now I suppose, we will have to give up 'closet' as a place where you hang clothes rather than a place a gay comes out of."

Schorr usually seems like a sensitive guy. You might remind him that our use of the word "gay" goes back to before he was born — if it wasn't in common usage at the time it's because the media considered us too disgusting to talk about. And given that the culture didn't even have any other non-abusive words for us, our right to name ourselves is a compelling question of human rights and dignity — and not to be ridiculed.

Write to Daniel Schorr, c/o National Public Radio, 2025 M Street NW, Washington DC 20036. ▼

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588. South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114.

National News

Priests Have Sex in Mass.

United Press International

BOSTON — Three Roman Catholic priests are under fire for suspected sexual misconduct with children in Massachusetts.

The most publicized case involves James Porter, who is under indictment in New Bedford for molesting more than 30 children 25 to 30 years ago when he was a priest in parishes in southeastern Massachusetts.

Another case concerns the Reverend Ronald D. Provost, who is on trial in Worcester for taking nude photos of a boy at a swimming pool locker room.

And in Springfield, a group of alleged victims of abuse by the Reverend Richard Lavigne are expressing concern because Lavigne is eligible for release this weekend from a psychiatric treatment center for clergy in Maryland.

Porter's attorney, Peter DeGelleke, is seeking to have 46 counts of child molestation against the former priest thrown out. He argued January 28 in New Bedford Superior Court that a section of the state's statute of limitations that prosecutors are try-

ing to apply to the Porter cases is unconstitutional.

More than 20 people attended the pre-trial hearing on the indictments that allege Porter molested more than 30 children from 1961 to 1967 in southeastern Massachusetts.

There was no immediate indication when the judge would rule on the motions to dismiss.

A judge in Minnesota on January 28 sentenced Porter, 57, to six months in prison and ten years probation, plus mandatory treatment, for molesting his family's underage baby sitter.

In Worcester, a trial began January 28 on charges Provost, 54, took pictures of an 11-year-old boy at the Greenwood Memorial Pool in Gardner on January 11, 1992.

The boy testified he "moonied" Provost when the priest started taking pictures. A patron at the pool reported the picture-taking to a guard, who called police who arrested Provost.

Gardner police Sergeant Richard Morrissey testified Provost admitted taking pictures of nude boys and that he often fantasized about having sex with them when he looked at the photos he had

taken.

Provost was pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Barre and often organized youth activities in the community.

In Springfield, more allegations were leveled against Lavigne on January 28. Eleven people, including five former altar boys, who claim they are victims, told stories of being molested, raped, struck in the face and coerced into stealing by Lavigne.

They said they came forward because they were concerned other children might become victims of Lavigne after he is released from a Maryland psychiatric facility. Lavigne, now 51, pleaded guilty in June to molesting two boys and is eligible to be released this weekend.

After release, he will be on probation for ten years and is under court order not to work alone with children under 16, nor to serve as a parish priest.

Boston attorney Michael Wiggins is representing the 11 new accusers in negotiations with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield, seeking unspecified compensation because they all suffered "unauthorized touching or fondling" by Lavigne. ▼

D.C.

April 25, 1993

in '93

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Transit Poster Theft

by Dennis Conkin

A \$1,000 reward has been posted by Gannett Transit Shelters for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of thieves who are stealing AIDS prevention campaign posters and other advertising from local bus stops. "They've been just robbing us blind and it really burns

my ass," said Gannett's general manager Lou Lillian.

Among the posters being sold by the thieves on the street — including Castro Street, Lillian told the *Bay Area Reporter*, are education and prevention posters from the STOP AIDS Project and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"It's a credit to our efforts

that people would want to steal our posters and billboard signs, but the message isn't that effective when the posters are not up where they should be up," said STOP AIDS project director Ken Jones.

Jones said that the thefts are part of a larger censorship issue in the Castro area.

"We go up and post flyers and signs and people who are offended by them come up right behind us and tear them

down. As a community we need to come up with a decision about how to handle these issues," he told the *B.A.R.*

San Francisco AIDS Foundation Director of Public Policy Rene Durazzo said that SFAF is aware that their ad campaigns are very popular, and that there's a demand for their safe sex posters and others ads — including the Be Here For The Cure Campaign.

"We've had the same experience with virtually every billboard or bus shelter campaign. They do get taken. They also get defaced and vandalized," Durazzo said.

Durazzo told the *B.A.R.* that people who liked the SFAF poster campaigns could always contact the Foundation's Education Department to see if they are available for public distribution, instead of buying them on the street. ▼

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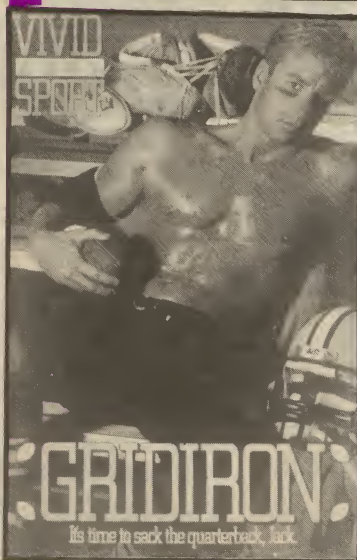
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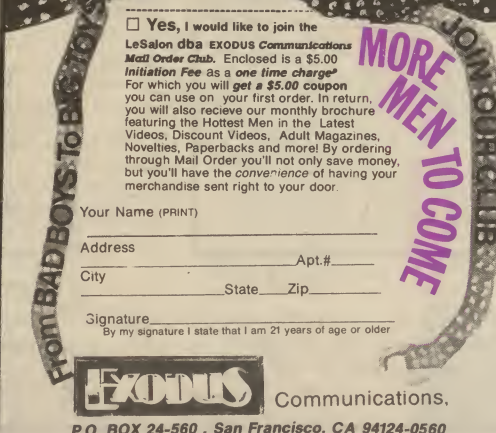
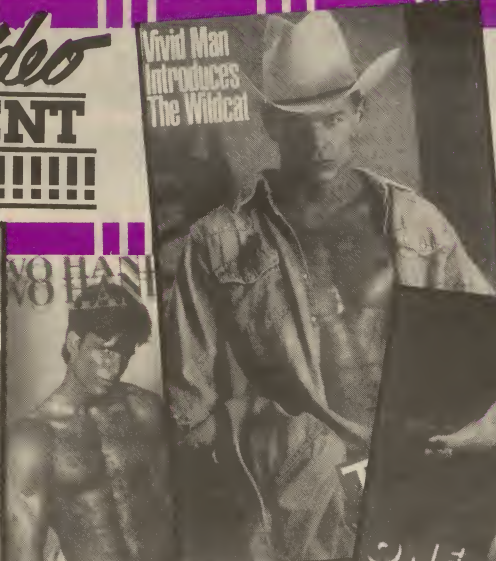
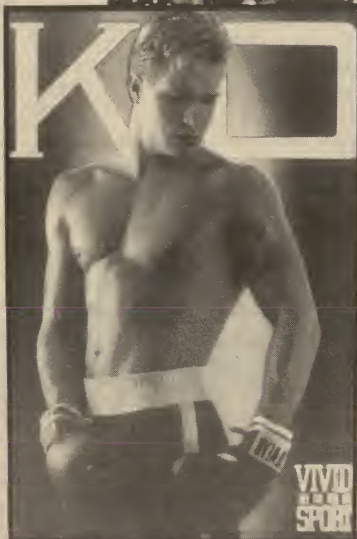
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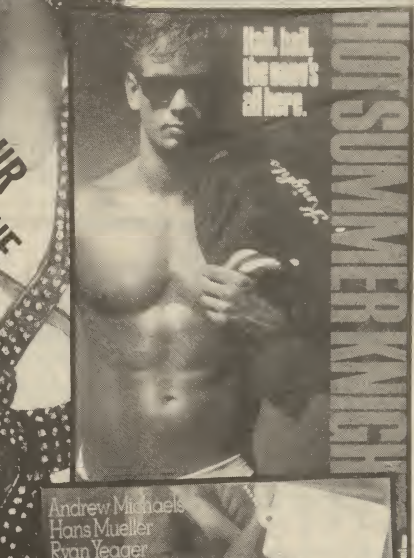
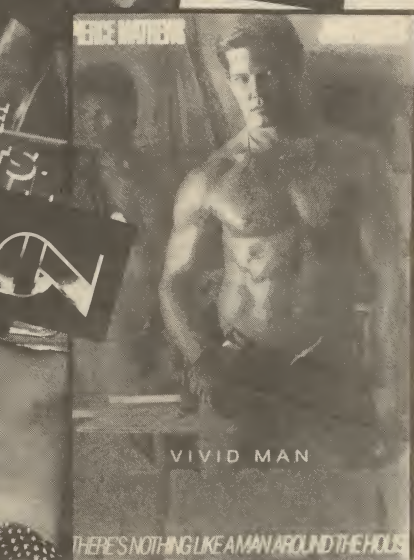
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Clan of the Cave Bears

**Expo Abounds
With Ursine
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by Roberto Friedman

What do you picture when you think of gay men who call themselves bears? Hairy men, bearded men, men with a certain amount of girth round the middle? Caps, denim, leather, flannel shirts? A blue-collar, working-man aesthetic?

I went to Bear Expo '93, held recently at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway, to find out what bears were all about. There, I was told that being a bear was more about attitude, about having "bear spirit," than any identifying characteristics. I accept what bears say about themselves. Also, most of the men I met were indeed hairy, bearded, big and burly.

The Bear Expo lasted three days, involved numerous discussion forums, tattoo and piercing demonstrations, a room full of bear media and accoutrement for sale, and ongoing bear porn showing in the video room. Events included the Mr. International Bear '93 pageant, lesser competitions for Mr. Grizzly Bear, Mr. Polar Bear and Bear Cub, as well as much bar-hopping to bear-friendly watering holes for what one attendee



Bear Spirit: Ultimately it's about empowerment.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

hoped would be lots of "beer-drinkin' and moustache-lickin'."

An organizer for the convention estimated that 80 percent of the registrants were from out of town, from all over the US, as well as from Australia, Canada and Switzerland. Perhaps San Franciscan bears feel they are already living in a bear expo, without the need of a hotel convention. They do not know what they were missing.

Now, I am a hairy-chested guy, but I'm not sure I'd qualify as a bear. For one thing, I am clean-shaven and wear a crew-cut. So I felt conspicuously out of place at the Expo, a shaved fish out of

water, Goldilocks amid the 300 bears, an obvious voyeur.

My discomfort increased when I asked the first guy I met, a bright-eyed, bushy young cub from Nashville, what had brought him to the Bear Expo.

"I'm here to meet my perfect physical type," he said, "big, heavy and hairy!"

I began to realize I would never get laid at the Holiday Inn.

Defining 'Bear Spirit'

But I enjoyed the Expo. Ultimately the whole shebang was about empowerment for men who identify with this bear thing. They have created a place for themselves where they don't have to wear the

The bear movement, complete with local clubs and national magazines, is a reaction against Attitude, against the cult of the perfect body.

latest fashion, haircut and cologne, because they never did. For these men, "bear

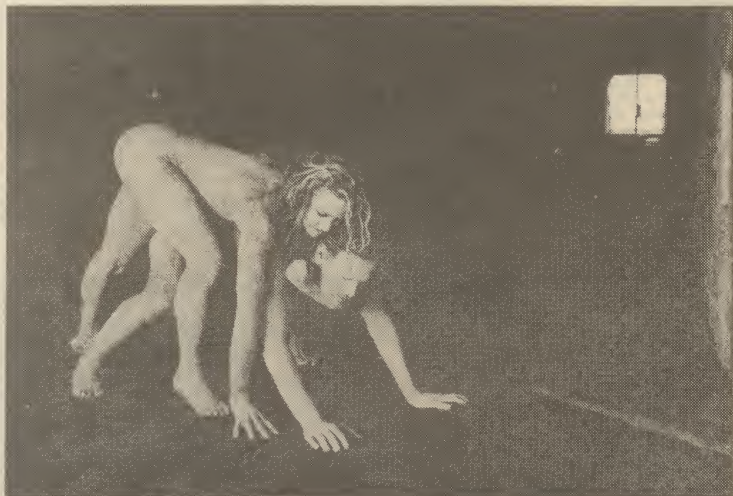
spirit" means being free to be themselves without ridicule. The bear movement, complete with local clubs and national magazines, is a reaction against Attitude, against the cult of the perfect body.

Organizer Ben Bruner told me, "When I came to San Francisco in the '70s, it was the era of the Castro Clone. They told me, 'You're too hairy!' Now no one tells a bear something stupid like that."

In the exhibitions room I found copies of *The Bear Facts*, *Drummer* and *Husky*, "for real men who like their men real." P.R. Simon Productions offered out-of-the-ordinary videos such as *Bellyman's European Vacation* and *Chubby and Heavy Extravaganza*.

"How come I can't rent

(Continued on page 51)



Contact and conflict are central themes in Contraband's *Mira Cycle II*.

(Photo: Nina Glaser)

Contraband Serves Up Searing Images at Artaud Calculated Abandon

by Noreen C. Barnes

The inimitable dance-theatre of San Francisco's Contraband is once again on the boards with the local premiere of *Mira, Cycle II ... The Fall* at Theatre Artaud. A version of this piece was initially done last June as part of Cal Performances, and it has toured, but all parts have been substantially revised and restructured by director/choreographer Sara Shelton Mann.

The company cites the central issues addressed in *Mira, Cycle II* as those of empowerment, love, sex and violence,

sacrifice, and commitment. It is the second in a trilogy of works inspired by the life of Mirabai, a 16th-century Indian mystic/poet.

Mann opens the performance looking rather otherworldly in a shimmering white dress. She seems to summon inner and outer spirits — a silent scream turns to thrashing to a suddenly gentle caress of her body, taking in and letting go. Her fingers pause to form triangles over mind and heart, and she is prepared for the journey ahead.

Group percussion, manipulation of light sources, and

(Continued on page 50)

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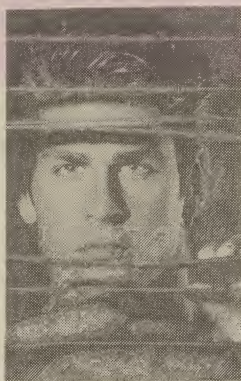
by Robert Julian and Orland Outland

Planet Homo, the new giveaway club guide, ran an item about Marky Mark's Cyclops appearance, alleging that promoter Gus Bean had to "chase down" Marky's limo with \$8,500 cash before the underwear model and sometimes singer would take the stage. Bean contacted *Planet Homo's* publisher, Peter Deep, and demanded a retraction. Bean told him he had documentation of his standard payment methods, and Deep agreed to the retraction. And Rich Carmichael, who wrote the item, is no longer writing for the magazine. In addition to the incorrect dish on Bean, the same column also had positive buzz on a new Friday club hosted by Ggreg Taylor in the King Street space at Pleasuredome. Carmichael works at Pleasuredome as an assistant manager — can you say "conflict of interest"? When contacted for this item, Carmichael now says a Ggreg Taylor club at Pleasuredome is a possibility, not a certainty.

Confidential to *Planet Homo*: We heard that limo-chasing story a couple weeks ago and didn't believe it, because the source told us that Bean closed down some of the bars and took their cash to pay Marky Mark. Sound Factory owns the bars; Gus Presents is a separate entity that rents the space and gets only the cash from the door. Well, live and learn — welcome to San Francisco!

Oh yeah, P.S.: Carmichael's column also had a quote from Taylor about his upcoming club, which Taylor promised would feature, in his own words, "music, drugs, and hot sweaty men." Taylor's recent ads have featured GE corporate logos restyled to read simply "E." Earlier this year, during a phone call to us, Taylor attempted to set himself and his club apart from the drug culture he claimed was rampant at Cyclops. Taylor remarked to us that he rarely ever did drugs and he did not think that drugs were a positive force in the community. Well, it's a woman's prerogative to change her mind.

In the *Village Voice*, Michael Musto gives us two items that pretty much define club life in the '90s. USA threw a screening party for pornthrob Ryan Idol's new flick, *Idol Thoughts*. But it seems New Yorkers weren't falling for the title's preposterous claim; Musto says there were only four people seated in a "sea of chairs." Meanwhile, people queued up



Ryan Idol: Suspect hetero

outside Sound Factory Bar for an Armani party, but most left because the party obviously wasn't happening, since there were only two drag queens inside — by edict, says Musto, of the "bizarrely transvestophobic Armani." Clubs just don't hire porn stars to dance anymore if they can get a famous drag queen to lip-sync instead. This may be the first time Armani's been behind the fashion rather than ahead of it.



Tim Lowe: Credible hetero

Speaking of trends, and Ryan Idol, the new big thing for gay porn stars is to (claim to) be straight. Recently we had accused murderer Tim Lowe bolting for the border with his girlfriend; down in L.A., giveaway magazine (and *Planet Homo's* new SoCal competitor) *Spunk* says Idol showed up at Revolver for the LA premiere of *Idol Thoughts* with "a blond dame with authentic dame plumbing." *Spunk* says Lex Baldwin is also a member of the I Just Do This for the Cash Club. At least Tim Lowe's heterosexuality has some credibility; he was married with a kid when his wife urged him to start doing gay porn in order to supplement the family income.

The *Enquirer* hired a drag queen to fill out enlistment applications for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. Eighteen-year-old Robert Trinh put on a little red and black jacket and skirt number which he must have stolen from Joan Rivers, and made the rounds of the recruiting offices. The Army recruiter told Trinh soldiers had to be fit; Trinh replied that he "could run as fast as any man — even in pumps." It figures that the Navy was the only branch that didn't even let him fill out the application. The *Enquirer* editors revealed their homophobic reasoning for sending him out: they "wanted to see just

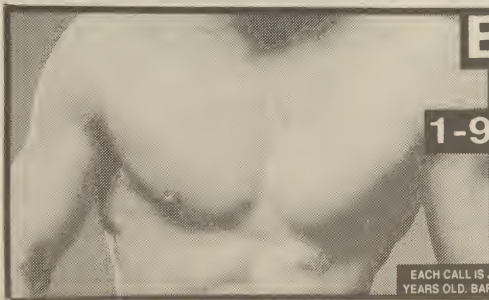


Joan Rivers' fashion ensemble

how permissive the military has become," now that recruiters are forbidden from asking applicants if they're gay. Oh, well: the *Enquirer* saying "drag queen" instead of "transvestite" is probably as great a step forward as the *Times* saying "gay" instead of "homosexual."

According to *Harper's Bazaar*, Chanel hired Joe Eszterhas to write a new commercial, which features hot'n'racy dialogue and action. *Harper's* asks mysteriously: "Will that third person in bed be one too many for network censors?" Are three in a bed really more offensive than painful rectal itch?

Straight Out of Rhode Island: Faith Solloway, one of the two creators of *The Real Live Brady Bunch* (previews begin Tuesday at the Alcazar), is about to defect. When the show ends its month-long SF run, Solloway will be taking permanent refuge here in the Bay Area. Right now the show is wrapping up a long stint in Rhode Island; after that, what nice Jewish lesbian wouldn't be longing for greener, gayer pastures? ▼



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SF Symphony Artistic Administrator Gregg Gleasner

The Music Lover

by Paul Thomason

Gregg Gleasner has been the artistic administrator of the San Francisco Symphony since May 1991. Before moving here, he spent 11 years at Columbia Artists Management in New York, the world's largest classical music management and marketing firm, where he was responsible for some of the best-known performers in the business.

Recently, the B.A.R. spoke with Gleasner, an out gay man in his mid-thirties who has been with his lover since the age of 19, about his job with the symphony, how he deals with his sexuality in such a visible position, and the differences between New York and San Francisco for a gay man in the arts.

★ ★ ★

Paul Thomason: What does the artistic administrator do at the San Francisco Symphony?

Gregg Gleasner: Basically he does the hiring and contracting of guest artists and soloists, works on programming with the music director and general manager, and does all the deals, the negotiations.

I thought the music director was the one who said, "I want so-and-so to come play the Beethoven Violin Concerto."

Oh, definitely! I work closely with the music director on that and with the guest conductors on what their programs will be. I'm the one who has to tell them, "No, we're playing Beethoven's Third the week before you arrive so you can't do it." Or, "No, we're recording that next year."

How do you keep up with what's going on in the musical world to get the best soloists and conductors?

I go to Europe fairly regularly and my background helps. I have a network of people around the world with whom I stay in quite regular contact. I'm totally convinced you hear the most about an important new artist or conductor from other musicians.

Being on the West Coast now, after basically spending your life on the East Coast, do you feel cut off from the musical world in New York and Europe?

I don't feel disconnected yet. But if I ever got to the point of going "Who?" when friends in New York recommended I hear someone, then I'd freak out.

How did you get involved in music?

I had the usual piano lessons starting when I was five or six and all those sorts of thing, but where the love of music came from, I'm not really sure. Part of me thinks it was the Victoria de los Angeles *Madame Butterfly* high-lights recording. [laughs uproariously] Of course that was a major sign that opera queendom was in the future.

And the infamous Van Cliburn Tchaikovsky First Piano Concerto recording. Those are the two earliest memories.

What's been the biggest change about being in San Francisco after all those years in New York?

I have a car now! [laughs] Also, there is something about this city that I find extraordinary and I can't quite put my finger on it. There's an enthusiasm and an intelligence, I guess it is, that I find very refreshing.

It can still drive me a little — well, I tell people San Francisco is the most cosmopolitan, provincial city that I've ever been in. And the combination of being so cosmopolitan and so provincial — at the same time — it's really strange. But I'm a person who functions best in extremes, so I love it. I'm glad the city's not bigger, and I'm glad it's not smaller.

That the city can maintain four major artistic organizations — the SF Symphony, Opera, Ballet, and San Francisco Performances, Ruth Felt's group — despite all the financial problems, is astonishing. The symphony and the opera are much more a part of everyone's life here than they are in New York.

Is there a difference in being gay in New York and here?

Yes. Compared to San Francisco, New York is a much more closeted town professionally.

Even in the arts?

I think so, within the business side of it. If Mikael [Eliassen], my lover, is with me at a concert and we're going out with an artist afterwards, Peter Pastreich, the symphony's executive director, would invite us both out. Just naturally. There would be no question about it. And that is different than in New York. There would be an assumption



Could it all really have started with *Madame Butterfly* for SF Symphony's Gregg Gleasner?

in New York that you ought to be a little more in the closet.

How have you managed to maintain a relationship for 19 years?

We've split up a couple of times, actually. Mikael's a musician, an accompanist, mainly for singers. He's the head of the vocal and opera department at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia. I've always thought our relationship worked best because

we've never worked together for a long period of time. He travels a lot; I used to travel much more than I do now. We'd have a week together, then be gone for two weeks, followed by three weeks together. There was always the getting back together, getting reacquainted, then off traveling again. That's very positive for two people who are pretty volatile in their approach to life.

Frankly I don't even think about the separations any more, because that's just the way it is.

How do you handle being gay in a job that's so visible in the music world?

I was one of those people who was just always out. I was never remotely hesitant about letting people know I was gay, but it was not something on my resume, any more than I would say "single" or "married" on a resume. I just assumed everyone knew and never thought of it being an agenda item. And I try to keep a sense of humor about it.

For instance, when celebrities come to town, often they're available for fundraising events or things like that. Recently a very attractive male celebrity was in town, and in a management meeting, Brent Assink, the symphony's general manager asked, totally non-innuendo, "Does anybody want to do anything with him?" I raised my hand and said, "Yes! Please!" And everybody laughed. To me it was a perfectly normal response. ▼

"There would be an assumption in New York that you ought to be a little more in the closet."

— Gregg Gleasner

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'Notorious' Selection of Herb Ritts Photos

Picture Perfect

by Roberto Friedman

An unusual confluence of photography shows currently in town have piled great heapings of celebrity worship and issues of glamour onto my critical plate. First there was the Annie Leibovitz show at the Ansel Adams Center, and now an offering of portraits by Herb Ritts, *Notorious*, has opened at the Robert Koch Gallery. Both shows pack a lot of star power, but Ritts' photos are starker, stripped down to the essence of their subject. You might even call them minimalist.

Twenty-five silver- and platinum-gelatin prints of such personages as Madonna and Paloma Picasso constitute the show. The prints, editioned and available for a mere \$1,200 to \$5,700, are all portraits in black and white, some toned in sepia. Their position in the frame, front and center, rarely varies.

Unlike the Leibovitz por-

traits, which attempt to reveal character through the personal environment or the use of props, there is nothing extraneous in a Ritts portrait. Neither is there any background, just the famous face, sometimes with its body, often not. In a few cases Ritts' reductiveness is taken to extremes: Sinead O'Connor is represented by her stubbled skull, Sandra Bernhard by her open mouth.

Ritts' front-on style can lay claim to a measure of elegance, for the portraits are striking in their simplicity. But they ultimately do not generate much heat or light, much less any insight into their subjects. Ritts must conceive of these studies the way a sculptor might, all massing and negative space.

Success With Male Nude

This aesthetic certainly pays off for him; witness his success with the male nude. There are several beefcake treats here: a *Duo* of body-builders Bob Paris and hubby



Vladimir I, Hollywood, 1990; platinum print.

(Photo: © Herb Ritts, courtesy of Robert Koch Gallery)

posed on a Mexican beach; a model Vladimir in various poses. Though these are beautiful bodies, I would be hard pressed even to call them erotic. They have the cold serenity, the absolute imperiturbability of classical statuary.

Granted, the photographs which are printed in sepia tones have a warmer look — Naomi Campbell in black boots, a killer pose; k.d. lang, Tina Turner in predictable poses. Some of the large, looming heads have an unde-

niable power, such as a shot of Magic Johnson, or a pensive, even melancholy Elton John.

McDonna is featured in no less than three portraits. But the works which generate the most interest are slight deviations from Ritts' monotonous norm: Aretha Franklin, a spirited presence captured — can it really be? — off-center, or the weathered hand of William Burroughs resting on a cane.

The portrait which most captivated my friend, himself

Ritts must conceive of these studies the way a sculptor might, all massing and negative space.

an avid photographer of male pulchritude, was that of the muscular back of *Thorne II, Morocco* (1992), set off against a highly textured wall. At last I could enjoy some figure/ground distinction, and if the portrait's subject is a headless torso, that too seems very much in keeping with Herb Ritts' program.

For an illuminating juxtaposition, the Larry Clark show at the Fraenkel Gallery, just one flight of stairs down from Ritts' show, exemplifies a diametrically opposite approach to photography. Clark's portraits of teenage boys, also in black and white, may be of only snapshot quality, but they speak whole worlds about their subjects, and even more about their creator. Ritts' work is picture perfect, highly polished, populated by famous faces and million-dollar bodies. But his products are icy cold, devoid of subtlety, soulless. ▼

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Film

'Strictly Ballroom' Is a Charmer

Fluffy But Fun

by Mark Freeman

It's a film from Down Under about competition ballroom dancing that bills itself as "strictly romantic." So you can't blame an audience for being strictly dubious, especially a crowd of homo cinephiles at a hip preview benefit last week for Frameline and Visual Aid.

My mind was put immediately at ease by the opening shot under the titles: an ancient dark red velvet theater curtain with the words "Strictly Ballroom" in script, highlighted with those obnoxious computer graphic starbursts that mean Shiny*Brite! That curtain promised Sincerity — a return to the fairy tale films of the '30s and '40s like *The Red Shoes* — while the twinkles reassured that the movie would be fully at home in the '90s and not take itself seriously at all.

As soon as the giant face of a dancer-boy's neurotic mother filled the screen with larger-than-life angst, the preview crowd began to relax. Our good-natured sick laughter soon extended to the lad himself, Scott (played by



Strictly Ballroom is Rocky in rhinestones, but it quickly won over a cynical preview audience.

Australia's newest "teen" throb Paul Mercurio, a young ballet director), who loses his dance partner just before the grand finals because the old farts who run the show don't like his innovations. The Rocky-in-rhinestones tale kicks into gear when ugly duckling Fran (Tara Morice) corners him in an empty ballroom and suggests that she

could be his new partner, even though she wears glasses.

More Like Judo

The scary sphere of competition dance is more like judo than social dancing. It's a garish world of cockatiel hairdos (an Aussie invention that has swept the entire Pacific

(Continued on next page)

Film

Hootchie-Kootchie Girl's Inner Life

by Jim Coughenour

It would have been easy for Rico Martinez to showcase Barbara LeMay, a.k.a. Glamazon, as a freak. Certainly she had the credentials: as a sixty-something transsexual dancer who billed herself as "six feet of TNT" (but was actually six feet of sagging silicon and cellulite), LeMay was impossible to take seriously. Yet this is exactly what Martinez does in his documentary *Glamazon: A Different Kind of Girl*. The result is an exuberant, hilarious, and heart-rendingly banal transcription of the inner life of an aging hootchie-kootchie girl.

Martinez first saw Barbara LeMay perform at Club Fuck in Los Angeles, where she was the object of general hilarity. Martinez was fascinated and sought her out backstage. When he told Barbara how much he'd enjoyed her show, she immediately responded, "Honey, you and I are going to be friends!" and bought him a beer.

LeMay complained that no one would believe the story of her life as Glamazon, a "girlie" dancer who worked the carnival and nightclub circuit from the 1940s to the present. Martinez did, and his offer to capture her story on film must have seemed the chance of a lifetime. *Glamazon* opens with Barbara flapping her false breasts and chattering in overdrive. She doesn't let up for the next 80 minutes.

Martinez sets most of his documentary in the tiny Appalachian town Barbara (nee Sammy Hoover) fled 50 years before. Barbara's rendezvous with her past is as artless as it is astonishing. Although her friends' affection for her is evident, they hardly know what to make of this tall, voluble creature in her huge blond wig. Barbara does everything she can to help them, introducing the story of her life at



Glamazon takes its freakish subject seriously.

every turn and dragging each of them in as witnesses. Each confirms her confabulations. The *Glamazon* was real.

Vision of Loveliness

These segments teem with marvelous moments. Ever the star, Barbara mugs shamelessly for the camera. In one of my favorite scenes, she provides Martinez with exaggerated "reactions" to her friend's conversation. Like the Emperor in his invisible



"Aren't we a vision of loveliness?" asks transsexual entertainer Barbara LeMay in *Glamazon: A Different Kind of Girl*.

cloak, Barbara is convinced of her glamour and expects her public to see it as well. When she enters the humble home of an old friend who's just cooked her a turkey dinner, she flings out her arms and inquires, "Where's all the music? At least they could have gave me a drum roll."

But *Glamazon* is equally generous with her magic. Barbara draws this same friend aside, packs her wrinkles with powder and rouge, crowns her with one of her preposterous wigs, then throws her arm around her.

"Aren't we a vision of loveliness?" Barbara asks rejoicingly. Her friend dutifully answers in a quavering voice, "Yes we are."

Martinez quietly undercuts these visions by showing us the darkness Barbara refuses to admit. Her relentless nar-

rative is intended to shut out this darkness, to cram every crevice with the glitter of "Glamazon," but she gives herself away. When Barbara first returns to West Virginia, it is night and she doesn't know where she is.

"It's so terrible to be lost in such a little town," she says to the crew, and we suddenly feel that Barbara's remark applies not only to her present predicament but to the whole saga of Sammy Hoover, the little boy so pretty he should have been a girl.

Similarly, when Barbara visits the cemetery where her parents are buried, she is eager to assure us how "lovely" everyone and everything is, but we sense how deeply her landscape is haunted by loss. *Glamazon* recovers this repressed depth of melancholy in a repeated sequence of

snow falling through a silent woodland. The desolate image of stark black trees against the snow, accompanied by the ethereal soundtrack of Kristen McCord, induces a reverie that affords no comfort — only an insinuating sadness.

Carnival Years

The weakest elements in *Glamazon* are the "fictional tableaux" Martinez introduces to dramatize the tales Barbara tells about her carnival years. At their best, these re-enactments are crudely campy, but as the film progresses they feel more and more like unwelcome interruptions. Martinez believes (with justification) that Barbara's stories are authentic American folktales, but his chosen format detracts from their substance and makes the documentary seem gratuitously bizarre.

Last week I expressed bewilderment at *Glamazon*'s inclusion in an Asian American film festival. I have since been enlightened. The director's full name is Rico Kerr-Serrano Martinez, reflecting his heritage as a Chinese-Filipino/Mexican American. Martinez credits Paul Mayeda Berges of NAATA for including works as diverse as *Glamazon* in the festival. I can only agree. *Glamazon* is an original piece of work, and a fitting memorial to the magnificent absurdity of Barbara LeMay, who died last year even as her story was being crafted in celluloid. ▼

Glamazon: A Different Kind of Girl Kabuki, March 12-13, 11:00 p.m. 863-0814

Fluffy

(Continued from previous page)

Rim) and of bleach-blond alcoholic lotharios. The worst of the latter is Barry (Bill Hunter in blond toupee), the paunchy, hateful heterosexual head of the local ballroom federation who beds its beauties 40 years his junior. By the time he appeared onscreen, the benefit audience needed no prodding: we hissed out loud.

Later, when the corrupt old thing dissed our hero's dance instructor as a "faggot," an equally elderly queen (Peter Whitford) drops him to the floor with a well-placed punch. Three cheers for the homosexual.

The slight content in this glitz-fest concerns familial support. Famous flamenco dancer Antonio Vargas charms as Tara's papa, as does Armonia Benedito as her rotund grandma who can still do a *paso doble*. Less endearing but still effective is Barry Otto as Paul's dorky dad. Pat Thomson, who plays his mom, died shortly after filming but left her Woody Allen-sized maternal cameo to posterity.

Baz Luhrmann, a first time director, shepherded this from a \$50 student theater production to 13 nominations for this year's Australian Film Institute Award. Maybe its American distributors, the adventurous Miramax Films, learned something from last



Young and daring Paul Mercurio defies tradition in *Strictly Ballroom*.

year's brouhaha over *Basic Instinct*. In addition to the gay-positive, campy shenanigans of *Strictly Ballroom*, the independent releasing company is also responsible for distributing *The Crying Game*, a film that has straight people across the country falling in love with someone of ambiguous gender.

Strictly Ballroom is a much, much slighter film than Neil Jordan's cross-sexual political conundrum. But for an afternoon alone or an evening with a friend that cries out for fluff, this fairy tale does quite nicely. ▼

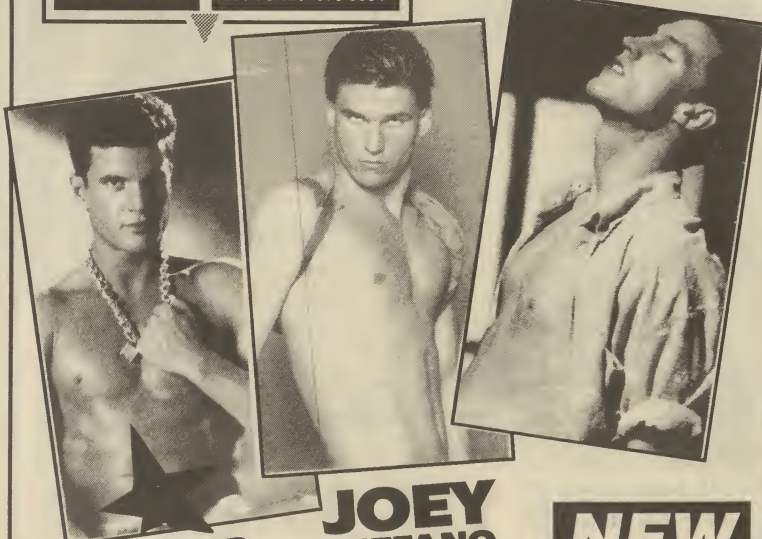
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My Old Kentucky Home

by Deborah Peifer

Charles E. Polly's new piece, *Twyla's Boy*, is a memory play about growing up gay, and growing old straight, in Appalachia. *Twyla's Boy* is a lovely show, rich in homely detail, that is much more than just another coming out story.

Indeed, its particular strength, and what makes the play different from so many autobiographical dramas, is that *Twyla's Boy* is as much about Twyla as it is about her boy. Twyla is a strong and loving woman, who raises six boys, alone, and who is wise in the ways of getting on. Her youngest boy, Ervin, whose favorite birthday present, at age seven, was a life-sized doll named Rita who came

with a complete wardrobe, is bright and filled with a touching innocence. The interactions of Ervin and Twyla are the stuff of dreams as well as nightmares.

As Twyla Tackett, Suzan Kendall is an astounding mix of fear and courage and wisdom and cruelty. Her Kentucky accent rings consistently true and helps to illuminate her character. There is such power in this woman,

this mother who wants the best for her children, but whose circumstances make that best a pitiful dream. She is appalled when Ervin, who had a chance to work in a factory, throws away the job to go to college. Kendall offers nuance upon nuance, in a look, or a sigh, or a gesture, that speak volumes about her life.

Charles E. Polly is Ervin, and he moves comfortably from age 4 to age 30, from the first day of school to the first day of college, from a Columbus, Ohio gay bar to the Castro. Polly captures the innocence and wonder, and the body language, of the five-year-old Ervin, and there is a sweetness to his portrayal that is both funny and profoundly moving. Polly's accent changes when his character goes to Ohio and learns for the first time that he has an accent, and throughout the piece, Ervin's accent is a clear indicator of where he is and who he thinks he is at that moment.

The writing, Polly again, is uneven, with lots more good than bad. Polly is most successful when he writes little human scenes. He has a wonderful sense of place, and the language he creates is reflective and filled with the poetry of everyday life.

The author gets into trouble, though, when he insists on conflicts that are larger than the piece can hold. Polly needs a little less drama juice and a little more faith in the audience's ability to make the connections from the intimate and personal to the global and political.

Twyla's Boy marks the opening of The Marsh at its new location. It is an auspicious opening and one that bodes well for all of us who long for good theatre. ▼

Twyla's Boy
The Marsh, through March 28
641-0235



Tough Twyla (Suzan Kendall, left) gives her all for son Ervin (Charles E. Polly).



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Ross Hanna's efforts dominate those of Uthra, below, in the collaborative dinner-theater experience *Dark Divas*

(Photo: Rik Clingerman)

'Dark Divas' Is Less Than Satisfying

Food for Naught

by Chad Jones

Dark Divas, described as an "avant garde dinner theater" experience, treads dangerous ground. Set in the cramped, cheesy atmosphere of Muchachas Mexican restaurant, audience members partake of a full meal prior to the show. The diners could conceivably horde vegetables from their plates to hurl at the actors during the performance.

This is conceivable, though not likely. During the 90-minute performance there are more than a few vegetable-hurling moments (in every sense of the phrase), but the two actors are so earnest you give them credit for trying, and keep your vegetables to yourself.

Muchachas is just the kind of Mexican restaurant you would expect to find in the Castro, something right out of Disneyland's Enchanted Tiki Room. You arrive for *Dark Divas* and are presented with a menu with four choices for dinner. (The \$25 ticket includes dinner and the show. Such a deal.)

The options are salad, a chicken burrito-type dish, a beef dish and a vegetarian cactus burrito. Drinks are no-host, but you sense early on that you'll need something to help combat the "avant garde" aspect of the show. As the 8 p.m. curtain time nears, you begin to wish dessert came with the meal. Anything to put off the show just a little longer. Will the tacky silk flowers and Inca masks on the wall sing? "In the Tiki, Tiki, Tiki, Tiki Room..."

Drag Attitude

The title, *Dark Divas*, might indicate a black drag show, but the drag here is more of an attitude. Actors Ross Hanna and Uthra (the "ancient name" of Lorenzo Buford) perform monologues and sketches, recite poetry and sing. Muchachas is an extremely small space, so you are up-close and personal with the performers whether or not you want to be.

With the makeshift overture, Whitney Houston singing "I'm Every Woman," the evening gets off to a shaky start. From the outset, Hanna overpowers the stage with his energetic presence, wild auburn hair and voice that booms through the restaurant. Uthra, on the oth-

er hand, seems to be communing more with his higher self than the audience.

Hanna so dominates him that the whole show is set off balance. When Hanna is doing his thing, be it skulking about as death with only a flashlight to light his face or attempting an a cappella version of the Streisand *A Star Is Born* finale, *Dark Divas* is somewhat engaging. When Uthra takes over, the evening turns into a limp, New Age void.

Uthra's monologues, poetry and songs dealing with the inner child, reincarnation, light codes, mindforce projection and dragons undoubtedly will be moving to some. My instant reaction was nausea. This could be credited, in part, to the excess of cilantro in the chicken burrito, but the insipid New Age blather was more likely the cause. If this excerpt from one of Uthra's poems turns you on, you'll love his performance:

Not in my closet am I
coming alone
because All That Is is
within me flowing
The winged body we're
is free to be
I was the caterpillar now
the butterfly
existing for all that is to be
I am the Eye of We ... the
eye has returned.

Two Ladies at Tea

One piece salvages the evening. Hanna and Uthra portray two elderly women just home from church. They set about making afternoon tea, reminiscing about their lives and their deceased husbands.

As the sketch progresses, it becomes clear that the women are involved in something much deeper than a tea party. Their love for one another and their very futures are about to undergo a major transition. Hanna's radiant portrayal of the elderly woman, his evocation of her composed, peaceful face and gentle voice, lifts the scene from the morass surrounding it. Uthra, though not as effective, is quietly involving.

Presumably, *Dark Divas* is an attempt to explore the feminine side of the male species, but instead of enlightenment, all you end up with is indigestion. ▼

Dark Divas
Muchachas, Mondays
through March 29
929-1430

Aussie Queer Scene Gets Literary

Up Under

by Jim Provenzano

Sheets of rain pour down, and Steven Carter is homesick for Australia. Having accomplished his goal of finding a distributor for his new gay and lesbian fiction anthology, the editor of *OutRage*, Australia's leading queer magazine, wants very much to return to his homeland.

Carter, who lives in Melbourne but also works in Sydney, the more modern of Aussie cities, has edited a col-

lection of mostly young, previously unpublished writers. The *OutRage* fiction anthology is both spirited and expressive, interesting for its

differences from, say American or English writing. Colloquialisms abound, but they work well to evoke the many moods and attitudes of gay life down under. Originally published in *OutRage* the magazine, a glossy *Advocate*-like monthly, the stories range from awkward coming-out tales to ones of rainy, desperate encounters. Gay-bashing apathy amongst homos is chillingly dissed in "From My Notebook." An Orwellian twist on homophobia and emergency medical treatment, Malcolm Jamieson's "An Accident" serves as a future vision nightmare. But for the most part, the lives are easier in these stories, with subtler crises. Altogether it's a surprising batch of new voices and a first for Australia as well.

Anniversary Celebration

Started on a government loan, Designer Publications publishes, besides *OutRage*, other regional gay papers, the *G'Day Guide*, and maintains a design firm. Started as *Gay Community News*, *OutRage* was born in 1983; the magazine celebrates its tenth anniversary this April.

With years of gay journalistic experience as a cultural archivist, Carter is quick to dispel the stereotypes of Australian life in all its American preconceptions, from Mel Gibson to Paul Hogan. "There is no outback. Believe me," he says.

Unlike other countries that are assaulted by American pop in its worst incarnations,

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Carter claims that "there's very little paranoia about America. There just isn't the anti-American sentiment in Australia that you encounter pretty well around the rest of the world." He mentions *Gay Times*, England's gay magazine, having a virtual no-American articles policy, because to them, U.S. queer culture is "too dominant."

With a less rigid political system, more gay-positive legislation has been approved in Australia than here. Only one state retains its sodomy law. "It's never a matter of enormous public debate," Carter explains.

Australians, he says, are more relaxed about trends and civil rights, and maintain their own sense of liberation. Having a gay prime minister (Don Dunstan) in the '70s didn't hurt. Neither did lifting the country's anti-gay military ban last year.

Queer Culture

However, Aussies are well aware of political U.S. queer culture, having created their own ACT UPs and Queer Na-

"There's far less vehemence because there's far less need for anger."
— Steven Carter

tions along with the latest in club and drag style. But for Australians, Carter says, "there's far less vehemence because there's far less need for anger. We have never had a truly right-wing government. We have an extraordinarily good health system, so we don't have people dying in the streets."

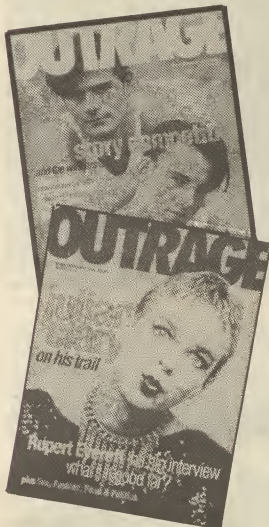
On the other hand, he does admit that the drug approval system's strict measures have prevented timely access to AIDS drugs. All medicines must have drug trials there before approval. AIDS councils have been created in

every state since 1982, and there's "no need for private funding," their rather neat way of managing irritating folks like Burroughs-Wellcome. And since the heavily taxed population pays for state medical needs, "most people don't have health insurance. You don't need it."

He also discusses the "disposable income set" of the land down under: "Most Australians travel a lot to America." Many Americans travel to Australia as well. Sydney is warm, but Melbourne has a more laid-back culture and chilly winters. In Sydney's gay district, size counts. Most bars, clubs, and hotels along Oxford Street are huge, since space is no problem. "Melbourne's charms are much more hidden," according to Carter, with parks and easier living, while Sydney is known for its parties at immense showgrounds.

Like many Aussie folk, Carter loves to dish the English and what he sees as their lack of a developed gay culture. "They just love biographies that reveal one of their famous actors had an affair with a man in 1947, as if it were something new."

Gay Aussies have recovered from the monstrously successful Sydney Mardi Gras (February 28), the largest queer glam gathering in the Southern Hemisphere, where gay folk around the world descend on numerous party arenas. While administrative bureaucracies annually threaten the success of the event, such gay raves and balls rarely encounter difficulties. While they have, like us, seen a rise in gay bashings, they are blessedly bereft of one sort of enemy. "We don't have fundamentalist Christians, thank the Lord." ▼



lection of mostly young, previously unpublished writers. The *OutRage* fiction anthology is both spirited and expressive, interesting for its



Wigged Out

Mark Davis is very funny — and very smart. He's been trying out material as he's been developing his new show, *Among My Wigs*, for some time now, and, well, if he's managed to make it fly in a suburban lesbian bar full of rude young dykes, he should positively soar at Josie's. Davis' superb theatrical training makes him much more than a mortician's son who grew up to be a stand-up comic; he's a true comedian with a wide range of characters and material, punctuated with musical commentary. From Mavis Davis (mom), Professor Prism (instructor of Homo 101), a remarkable Catherine Deneuve clone (Catherine Denouement), to a fusion of Vikki Carr and Eartha Kitt (Vikki Kitt), Davis and his wigs gleefully and pointedly trample the contemporary cultural landscape. He uses his multiple personalities to further a subtle social agenda, and occasionally, as himself, packs more than a few very queer political punches. *Among My Wigs* plays March 10-14 at 8 p.m. at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint (3583 16th Street at Market), with an added 10 p.m. show on Friday, March 12. Tickets are \$10. For reservations, call 861-7933.

— Noreen C. Barnes

#17

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Performance

Danielle Willis' *Breakfast in the Flesh District*

Brunch of the Living Dead

by Jim Provenzano

In these tough economic times, it is heartening to see one art form thriving: performers who consider their lives stage-worthy material. Some, fortunately, have survived rather horrid experiences and lived to tell the tale. Danielle Willis is one such creature.

A fixture on the SF arts scene, Willis is the author of dark sardonic works (*Dogs in Lingerie*) and appears at readings all over town. Her visual appeal — wiry Gothic with lace and ubiquitous black garb — helps define her persona.

Yet in her performance of *Breakfast in the Flesh District* at the Climate Theatre, Ms. Willis' style is more pedestrian than her material would suggest. As directed by Cintra Wilson, she lounges on a plush red sofa, sits Dietrich-style on a chair, and sometimes lolls about the carpet like a cat on Quaaludes while recalling tawdry satanic rituals and Andy Gibb obsessions. She tells her entertaining Tenderloin nightmares in a laconic, deliberately unener-

getic manner, occasionally sparked by witty insights.

Willis' stories tell of the repugnantly heterosexual and abusive Mitchell brothers, whose (surprise) sexual harassment, drugs, and guns are the backbone of that realm, the Mitchell Bros. Theatre, what she calls "a nude Bank of America." Upon being

This is not your usual dyke. ... Willis purrs in her freak appeal.

fired as a stripper, she attacks a Mitchell brother with her spiked heel, truly a bravura moment. She alludes to her private curse having something to do with the later murder of one Mitchell by the other.

In other sections (separated only by blackouts or an all-too-long intermission), Willis recounts what another critic called a "rich, obscene web of

tales," but any reader could surely find juicier obscenities in their own trips to the dank netherworld of sex clubs. Willis is non-judgmental, though, and justifies this seedy life admirably.

She mentions her strange relationship with a transsexual (who sat near me the night I viewed the show. Down in front sat Matt Dillon and Gus Van Sant, whom she aimed most of her monologue toward. It seemed as if we were watching an open audition for *The Mayor of Castro Street*.) This is not your usual dyke. This is not your usual anything, and that is the redeeming factor. Willis purrs in her freak appeal.

There's nothing bad about this show. It's got some good material, and Willis is a talented writer. Just don't expect theatre — or even anti-theatre. Expect a Goth fashion victim who's lived a spicy, sordid life to tell you some episodes in an, unfortunately, less than spicy way. ▼

Breakfast in the Flesh District
Climate Theatre, through
March 27
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Sardonic survivor Danielle Willis has lived to tell some horrid tales.

D.C. '93

in April 25, 1993

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Books

Pain and Laughter

Empathy
by Sarah Schulman; Dutton, \$18

by Deborah Peifer

Empathy is Sarah Schulman's (*People in Trouble, After Delores*, et al.) latest novel. In it she explores the pains (and occasional pleasures) of urban life, Manhattan style, with wit and compassion.

Anna O. is a lesbian searching for true love, great sex, the meaning of life, and a pay phone that works. She also is experiencing more and more difficulty understanding her life. "What happened," she wonders, "to the world that I was promised back in first grade in 1965?"

Anna works as a temp, although even that small achievement is in danger of disappearing. "It used to be that stockings, heels, and combing her bangs forward were the only prerequisites for employment. Now she had to know Word Perfect, too." Anna needs help, but how is she to find the right shrink?

Enter Doc, a self-defined "lay analyst" who finds clients by passing out business cards on the street to people who look neurotic (a method that makes at least as much sense as advertising on late-night television and is certainly cheaper). Doc's one rule of analysis is that he sees each client no more than three times, so he never has to worry about clients showing up with nothing to say. The meeting of Anna O. and Doc is serendipity at its best, and their subsequent adventures are filled with genuine pain and authentic laughter.

On the way to a denouement that is entirely unex-

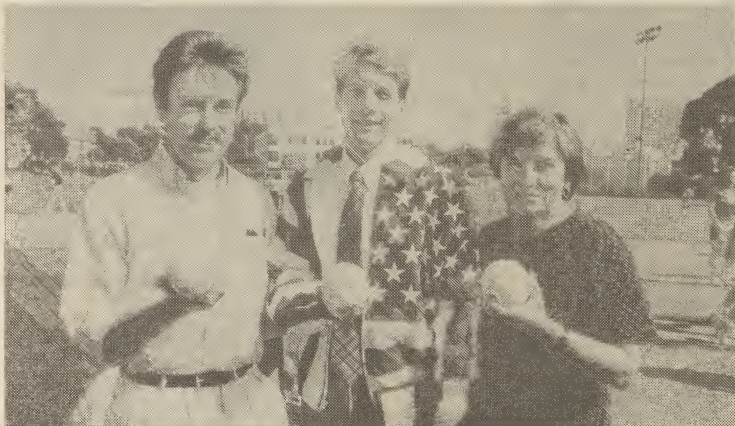


pected and completely believable, Schulman's characters comment on the horrors of the city with sensitivity and a helpless rage. When Doc sees a homeless man unconscious and bleeding, he calls for help, telling the necessary lies that now govern so much of our interactions with bureaucracy: "Hello ambulance?" said Doc into a pay phone. "There is a white man, mid-forties, in a business suit. I think he had a heart attack." It was the only way to get them to come. "Are you sure it's not a homeless person?" the radio dispatcher asked. "Yes," Doc said. "He's wearing a watch." Of course, even desperation measures are chancy in a city where fewer and fewer pay phones work at all.

Empathy is an astonishing and brilliant novel. The characters are richly comic and painfully human; their concerns about modern life are all of our concerns. Sarah Schulman is a writer who takes tremendous chances, in plot, in style, in language, and succeeds far beyond any reasonable expectation. *Empathy* is a gift. ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

Baseball



The Gay Softball League's Rick Brattin, left, poses with opening day guests of honor Keith Meinhold and Roberta Achtenberg.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)



Above: Safe at first during GSL's opening game. Right: Pensive Cubs before play begins.

(Photos: Rick Gerharter)

Opening Day!



Community Sports

Coming Soon: Gay Games IV

by Rick Thoman

Gay Games IV Executive Director Jay Hill came to San Francisco to drum up support and enthusiasm for the 1994 New York Games. His appearance at a Team San Francisco fund-raiser on Feb. 27 also featured U.S. Olympic gold medalist Bruce Hayes, who has come out to lend his support to Gay Games IV.

Hayes won the gold medal in the 800-meter freestyle swimming event at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. He joins Martina Navratilova as a "star athlete" spokesperson promoting Gay Games IV.

Hayes had quit swimming after his victory in LA in '84, but was coaxed back into the sport by an old friend, who convinced Bruce to compete for New York at the 1990 Gay Games in Vancouver. Hayes came away with seven gold medals and great admiration for the Gay Games.

Changed His Life

According to Hayes, participating in the Gay Games "changed my life." He found the experience every bit as "exciting and uplifting" as the hundreds of other world class meets he swam in during his career, including the 1984 Olympics. He has been a supporter of the Gay Games ever since and was recently profiled on an ABC *World News Tonight* segment.

While Hayes had an easy time whipping up enthusiasm for next year's Gay Games, Hill had difficulties coming up with specific details about

the event that is little more than a year away.

This much is confirmed: the 1994 Gay Games will take place in New York City June 18-25. The sports that will comprise Gay Games IV will be badminton, basketball, billiards, bowling, cycling, diving, flag football, golf, ice hockey, judo, marathon, martial arts, physique, powerlifting, racquetball, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track and field, triathlon, volleyball, water polo, wrestling — and these new additions: aerobics, figure skating, in-line skating (i.e.: Rollerblades), sport climbing and table tennis.

**Organizers
are currently
focusing on
securing
event sites,
including
opening and
closing
ceremonies.**

Failing to make the transition from Gay Games III to IV: darts, croquet and equestrian event.

Organizers are currently focusing on securing event sites, including opening and closing ceremonies. It is thought that opening ceremonies will be at Columbia University's Wein Stadium

(Continued on page 42)

GSL March 14 Matchups

Jackson Field No. 1
10:20 a.m.
Castro Village Pharmacy
vs. Uncle Bert's Best
11:40 a.m.
Fan Asylum Rock Dogs
vs. Stud Puppies
1 p.m.
Dottie's True Blue Cafe
vs. SF AIDS Foundation
Golden Bears
2:20 p.m.
Fan Asylum Rock Dogs
vs. Pilsner Penguins
Jackson Field No. 2
11:40 a.m.
Pendulum Pirates vs.
Rawhide
1 p.m.
Phone Booth vs. Pilsner
Penguins
2:20 p.m.
Pilsner Huffin Puffins vs.
Lone Star Cockstars

Balboa Field No. 1
11:40 a.m.
Pier 50/Olive Oils vs.
Sabine Chiropractic
1 p.m.
The Cafe vs. Silverman
Chiropractic Bloody
Mary's
2:20 p.m.
Leticia's vs. The Metro
Balboa Field No. 2
10:20 a.m.
Bear vs. Viacom
11:40 a.m.
Cubs vs. Rossi
Meats/LYRIC
1 p.m.
Edge vs. Pilsner Prism
2:20 p.m.
Group Therapy vs.
Pendulum Bucks

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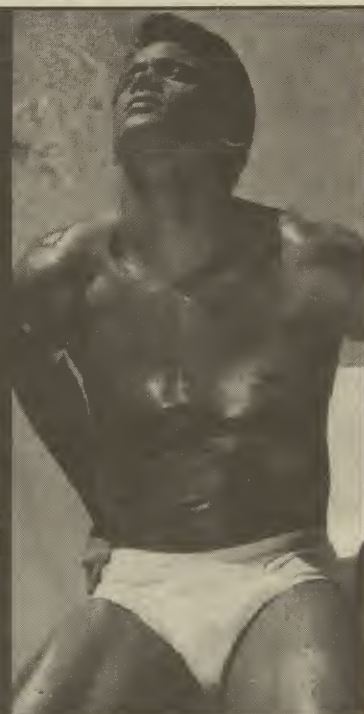
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CJ-26



Ready, set, go: The Games are beginning to take shape.

(Photo: Darlene/Photographics)

(Continued from previous page)

and closing at either Shea or Yankee Stadium.

Said Hill, "Once we get those things settled, then we can turn out attention to other matters."

Cash-Flow Problems

Those other matters include where the expected 15,000 athletes will be housed, how they will be transported to, from and during the Games, and how/when they will register for their prospective events. Besides the athletes coming from 40 countries, the Games will also attract over 500,000 spectators and 5,000 cultural participants.

Organizers are struggling with a lack of cash flow at a time when they need to start putting deposits down on prospective event sites. Hill said it would cost an estimated \$5 million to finance the New York Gay Games and that anyone interested in supporting the Games at this critical time could send their donations to 19 West 21st Street, Suite 1202, New York, NY 10010.

Hill noted that a majority of the events would be held in Manhattan, including 90-95 percent of all sports finals (even if preliminary competition takes place elsewhere). Kennedy Travel in New York has been named the official travel agency for the Games and is expected to release housing and travel packages to local agencies around July or August. Registration is expected to open in August or September and entry fees may be based on the event's production costs (for example, if it costs more to put on swimming than billiards, then swimmers would pay a higher entry fee).

Hill and Hayes were in town not only to draw attention to the Gay Games, but

also to Team San Francisco. Donations from the evening went to support TSF's "Athlete's Fund," which will provide TSF members with money to defray the cost of participating in the Games.

For more information about Gay Games IV, phone (212) 633-9494. ▼

Pool

Puppies Lead Pack

In its many years of league participation, the Pilsner has never fielded a serious contender for the SF Pool Association Championship, but that long drought may have ended with this season's Pilsner Puppies, whose 35-13 start lead the pack in the third week of the spring season.

The Pups are led by Jerry Pepper at 6-0 and Jim Dreer, off to a career-best 11-1. Richard Mosher, Michael LaBrie, Michelle Smith, and Dirch Hines round out the roster.

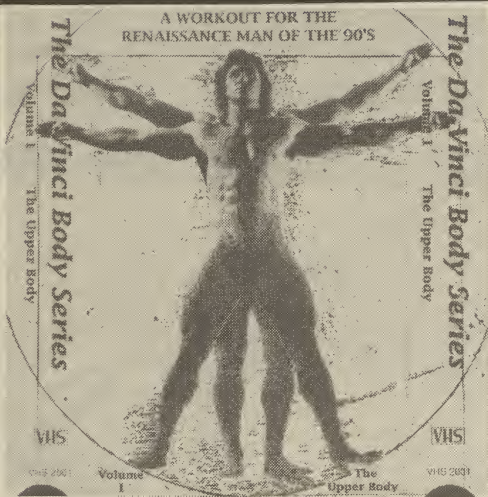
Division II's Red Barons have pulled out to a four-game lead over another strong Pilsner team, the Penguins. Detourillas hold down third place.

International Borders head up what appears to be a three-team race in Division III, with Marlana's Overpassers and Cinchpanders hot on the trail. Cinchpender Rick Bradford leads the individuals list at 8-0.

Division IV will almost certainly field five playoff teams; their current top three, Border Patrol, Marlana's Magic, and Tien Fu-lishness, are in a virtual dead heat.

Congratulations to the top four finishers in last week's Captain's Tournament at the Cinch. Russ Pepin from the Stud finished fourth; Uncle Bert's and Ernie's Bernie King placed third. Border Patrol's Thayer McDougle came out of the losers bracket to topple Tien Fu-lishness's Luby Pelletier.

To Your Health



Bareboned Exercising

by Dianne Aaronson

The Da Vinci Body Series is advertised as "A Workout for the Renaissance Man of the '90s." Perhaps not qualifying as a renaissance man leaves me at a disadvantage in terms of reviewing this video. Therefore, my qualifications as a weight-training instructor will just have to do, aesthetic values aside.

Though I probably appreciate the beauty of the human body (male or female) as much, if not more, than the average individual, I found the fact that all the subjects ("five beautiful men") in the film were nude ludicrous if not downright dangerous. At the start of the tape, the narrator explained that the subjects were *au naturel* to allow the viewer to get a better sense of the muscles involved in each exercise. A reasonable enough idea, though a bikini brief would have sufficed.

The tape I reviewed was Volume One of a series entitled *The Upper Body*. And though, admittedly, the exercises shown did relate to just that, more camera shots were aimed at the crotch and inner thigh/abdominal region than the actual muscles being worked. *The Lower Body* video must be downright porn.

Personal preferences aside, a true "Renaissance Man of the '90s" may find this artistically erotic. I, however, was annoyed with the distraction and found myself devoting far too much time to investigating whether a given exercise would cause an erection. (So much for being able to more clearly see the muscles involved.) Anyone doing this type of research was given ample opportunity to collect data. If you want the answers, you'll have to buy the video (Greenwood/Cooper Homevideo).

I am not opposed to a bit of artistic license — and there is nothing wrong with a few lingering shots of beautiful muscles and bodies — but the camera "techniques" here eventually became quite tedious after the newness had worn off. At the same time, the men were not treated like pinups or a piece of meat the way a woman in a similar tape probably would have been. In fact, the models/exercise demonstrators were detached from the process to such a degree that they were

totally, strangely expressionless. But perhaps if I had a camera pointed at my crotch, I'd look pretty somber myself.

Breathe Deeply

Now for the technical critique. The narrative describing the various exercises, muscle groups, techniques, and form was, in general, well thought out and accurate. My major criticism of this tape is that not only was the importance of breathing never mentioned, the models *never visibly took a breath!*

I assume this came about as a result of the conflict between demonstrating the exercise and looking good. However, not breathing during exercise is one of the most dangerous acts of omission one can commit.

Which brings up a ques-

The Lower Body video must be downright porn.

tion I myself could not answer. Who is this tape for? Nowhere on the video cover or on the tape did I see or hear that *The Da Vinci Body Series* was not for beginners, and because the narrator did such a lovely job of describing the necessity of warm-ups and cool-downs, I assumed this tape was targeted at the novice.

However, most of the exercises shown here — the warm-ups and abdominal exercises especially — were of a more advanced nature. Sure, they make for a prettier picture, but many exercises in *The Upper Body* should not be attempted by a beginner until they have mastered some more basic exercises.

As an instruction manual/reference guide of various upper body movements for the chest, back, deltoids, biceps, and triceps, this tape is acceptable for intermediate/advanced gym rats. As a piece of erotica, this tape is aesthetically pleasing (if a little boring) for novices through advanced gym rats — but might be more arousing for those couch potatoes who don't get the benefit of the visuals at the gym every day.

As for you beginners out there, I can only say, "Don't try this at home." ▼

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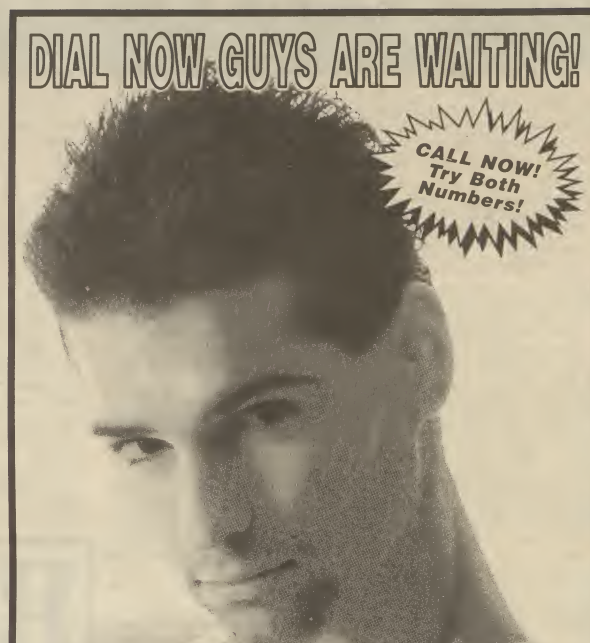
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Smooth, masc Asian, yng 45yo, 5'9, sks similar cln-shvn, lean, musc, in-shape WM into foreplay, massage and safe, hot sex. EXT. 5843

Blks or Latinos who want head. Masc WM, mid-40s, wants to give service. Open to other things. EXT. 5844

Prince Albert. GWM, 60yo, 6'2, 200lbs, hairy chest; unusual Prince Albert circumcision w/20 rings attached. Interested? Let's talk. EXT. 5845

Submsv FF btm needs domnt, hairy FF top for steady, rough sessions. My place OK. Me: 46yo, 5'11, 180lbs. EXT. 5846

Pig wallow sks butt hog. Hot FFB, fit 57yo, beard, beard, tats w/bondage sling, wants hamfist top, vicious mindfuck trip. EXT. 5847

GLM lkn for GAM/GLM for serious frndshp/rtnshp. EXT. 5848

WM, 38yo, 5'6, 123lbs, gdlkn, wants cute man to cuddle and share life with. Be HIV, smk, drug free! EXT. 5849

Phone sex if you are 18-19yo. Give me a call and let's beat it over the phone boner boy. EXT. 5850

Peninsula GWM asseater for HIVneg blk only. Your place. EXT. 5851

Kinky dad sks kinky son for rtnshp. Me: GWM, 43yo, 6'4, 240lbs, hairy chest, masc. You: 20-35yo, smooth, obedient, loveable. EXT. 5852

Gdlkn btm guy, 29yo, in the E Bay sks all hung tops, blk/Latino esp welcome. You have friends? The more the merrier! Fuck me all night long. Give me those big juicy loads. EXT. 5853

Hot, in-shape GWM, 27yo, brn/grn, 5'9, 145lbs, sks hot BB, any race. I'm fun, safe, HIVneg. You too pls. EXT. 5854

Play w/my cute ass. Great butt, thighs, massage, lick, 5'9, 155lbs, boyish 40yo, hndsm. Describe you. EXT. 5855

Hardcore wrestling fanatic sks buddies for free-weight wkouts, rough-house bouts, bare-fisted sparring, rough safe sex, massage, CBT, etc. EXT. 5856

Tie you up, ride your butt, pump your face. Gdlkn, musc Hawaiian BB makes you cum helplessly. Attract, trim only. EXT. 5857

Domnt, masc WM, well-blit, hung big, wants in-shape, pass/submsv WM w/hairy bod, 20-30s. EXT. 5858

Play on all my athletic legs. I need exprd ckskrs. EXT. 5859

Italian ex-football jock sks expert oral servicing on reg basis. Castro loc. All replies considered. EXT. 5860

Bi Chinese male sks bi/gay masc Asian male for frndshp. I'm sensually hot for lean/musc phys, 20-30yo. Aggrsv, shy, discreet a plus. EXT. 5861

Attract GBM, HIVneg, 40s, lkn for daddy type GWM, HIVneg, 48-60yo, w/ a big dick, 7-8", who likes to have love made to his cock for hrs! (Smile.) EXT. 5862

Spanking that feels good, ass massage. Me: attract GWM, 40yo, 6'5, 200lbs. You: attract GWM, 18-35yo, slim, smooth, btm. Call for details. EXT. 5863

Hot, musc 35yo sks musc guys w/the biggest nipples on earth! Pls no games. Only serious replies. EXT. 5864

GWM, cut, mid-40s, HIVneg, lots of body hair, will crawl to feet, boots, grovel, good head of truly serious conservative men to 60yo. Will answer all. EXT. 5865

Hot WM, gym bod, hung big, has hungry tongue for well-blit, beefy WM w/ a tight, aggrsv bubble butt. EXT. 5866

Wht/Latin jocks proud of your body? Enjoy being in front of a camera in a sensual, erotic portrait? Taken by yng amateur GAM photographer. No exp reqd. Be 18-35yo. EXT. 5867

I want you to sit on my face so I can tongue-fuck your big, hairy bubble butt. You: well-blit WM, 20-30s, hairy. Me: hot, hung big, well blit, hungry tongue. EXT. 5868

Wht sex fiend for blks, hairy dudes. Slurps, slobbers, for VA of racial talk. 90 percent of any fantasies. No pain. WS, kink, smk, drink, use my space. EXT. 5869

GWM, 38yo, hairy, husky, humorous. Have 'stache. Balding. I sk attract, boyish-lkn guy, 20-30yo, for poss rtnshp. EXT. 5870

GWM, 37yo, 6', 150lbs, cln-shvn, top, HIVneg, smooth, lkn for lean, cln-shvn btm to hold, relax, sleep with. Long-term poss. No queens. EXT. 5871

Masc Asian, musc, toned, HIVneg, sks other Asians, 20-30s, for hot oral massage. Lay back and exp a safe, intense sensual workout. EXT. 5872

Ex-Navy, trim guy will command guys in their 20-30s to strip naked and obey orders. Trim only. EXT. 5873

GLM btm, HIVneg, sks top man for lite SM, FF, toys, spanking, poss rtnshp or buddies. Leathermen welcome. EXT. 5874

You're smooth, thin, passv, fun, 25-35yo, like romance w/Eng-like GWM, 40s, tall, slender, cln-cut, into arts, quiet eves, movies, etc. EXT. 5875

Hairy-chested blonds, redheads, HIVneg, make me weak in the knees. I'm 37yo, blond, w/beautiful bubble butt, HIVneg, Speedo tanline, defined body, E Bay. EXT. 5876

Skn tall, dark, very musc hunk for rtnshp/hot times. Me: 34yo, 6'1, 190 hard lbs, avid runner/triathlete. You: dark hndsm, hunky/musc. EXT. 5877

Well-blit WM needs other in-shape WMs to spread their big hairy buns on his hungry tongue. EXT. 5878

I'm yng, hung and ready to make your fantasies come true. Your pleasure is my pleasure. Call me! EXT. 5879

24yo GWM wants to meat other GMs in Fairfield, Vacaville, etc area for frndshp, fun, more? EXT. 5880

HIVpos Virgo papacito w/'stache wntd by GWM, 6', 30ish, brn/bl, cuddle-monster, keys on rt. EXT. 5881

Asian/Latino dudes interested in hot sensual massage and wants his nipples, crotch and armpits licked to the max, lv mssg. You: masc, trim, HIVneg. Me: Asian, same. EXT. 5882

Two ckskrs lkn for snpls w/good stamina. EXT. 5883

Hot Italn cumfreak and asseater sks heavy-loaded, horny men for reg sessions. Serious. Call for description. EXT. 5884

Sadistic but loving dad, 45yo, HIVpos, sks submsv btm boy, bearded and hairy, under 35yo, for TT, butt play connection. EXT. 5885

latex, rubber, leather, gear. Any race, in-shape men, 25-45yo, healthy, hot, sweaty, funky. EXT. 5892

Masc, musc GWM, hndsm, 5'8, 170lbs, 41yo, sks masc, musc buddy for fun times, rolling around, wht Jockeys a turn-on. EXT. 5893

GWM, 43yo, 5'6, 180lbs, HIVpos, vers, horny, sks well-blit, vers Latin, Mid-Eastern or wht, 26-46yo, for buddy/mate. EXT. 5894

25yo GWM, 5'5, 140lbs, sks 35-42yo. Must be masc, musc, a great kisser and cuddler. Daddy types and 'staches a plus. EXT. 5895

San Jose GWM, 31yo, sks friends, any race, 25-36yo. Honesty, humor, maturity,

5902

Will take your load if you're Asian and like oral service. Me: GLM, hot, horny, eager, service oriented. EXT. 5903

I would like to get to know a guy for rtnshp. Me: 29yo, 146lbs, 5'11, attract, learner. You: butchy, loving w/goals. EXT. 5904

Hi, my name is Joseph. I'm clean as well as healthy. I like to be photographed and I love my hole being licked by a GBM. EXT. 5905

Masc GWM, 44yo, 5'11, 190lbs, bl/bl, smooth, cut AL Mech in E Bay sks yng, passv guy for fun, travel, good times. EXT. 5906

I'm a 27yo WGM lkn for same age, 18-30yo, who is a total top. I love to get fucked and to give head. EXT. 5907

I love bears! I'm 32yo, 5'11, slim, uncut 9", hairy, beard, 'stache and very vers. Call me and let's have fun! EXT. 5908

Asian daddy sought by GHM, 25yo, 140lbs. Am eager to service Asian daddy. Willing to be your boy toy to appease you. EXT. 5909

You: hungry, 18-40yo, gdlkn, in shape, hung, nice ass. Queer Nation type/uncut a plus. Us: two hot, in-shape GWMs skng vers/btm GLM/GWM for good times. EXT. 5910

Stocky, masc dad, mid-30s, sks HIVpos, hot wht boy, 22-32yo, w/great ass and trim body for hot sex and cuddling! EXT. 5911

Hot, tender affection, mutual deep kisses, nipple work, toys, videos w/GWM, 40s, HIVpos, 5'9, 158lbs, blond, smkr. Call. EXT. 5912

Bi Chinese male sks other gay/bi masc Asian male for frndshp. I'm sensually hot for trim/musc phys. Will service the right guy. EXT. 5913

Are you a top who prefers a partner who's masc out of bed but all btm in? I'm a together, yng 50yo GWM, slim, fair, smooth swimmer's bld, NS/ND. We're both HIVneg, health conscious, very sexual and together types. EXT. 5914

Attract Filipino mix, 25yo, prof and independent, sks healthy, attract, in-shape, HIVneg Cauc top w/stamina. NS/ND a plus. EXT. 5915

Attract North-Am Latino, 30yo, HIVneg, 5'11, 180lbs, 'stache, 8-1/2" thick, humorous, NS/ND, loyal. Sks GWM/GHM for monog lover, HIVneg/pos. Compatible sexual intimacy: oral only w/condoms, no anal. Mutual, verifiable STD screening for oral sex in monog rtnshp. EXT. 5916

WM sks uncut guys, fit and under 40yo. I want to see some foreskin. Dark skin a plus. EXT. 5917

Bad boy, 56yo, wants to meet man over 60yo w/class who'll whip my ass. EXT. 5918

If you've information on contacting SBay fight club "The Warehouse" pls call. Your ph charges reimbursed for right info. EXT. 5919

Fantasy fulfillment wntd by hndsm, fit, 30yo prof, HIVneg. BB, jock studs only. EXT. 5926

BarTalk



PERSONALS

Sonoma Co hndsm WM wants to suck European, Latin or Mid-East tops w/6-1/2" plus. No reciprocation, whts, drugs. EXT. 5886

1960 GWM two-tone tan over wht, hzl and brn, trim, two-owners, rare find. EXT. 5887

Affectionate GWM, 34yo, 6', 165lbs, brn/hzl, HIVneg, sks GWM top. I love having my butt plowed. EXT. 5888

GBM, 226lbs, 6'1, lkn for a phone buddy. EXT. 5889

Attract, fit, 57yo, deep throat, gumjock ckskr for hot, yng, 18-25yo studs. Take and get your horny rocks off. Any race, my place. EXT. 5890

Massage my wht ass, suck my cock, use your bullmeat fistarm dildo. Imagine I'm defined, gdlkn 37yo. EXT. 5891

Bondage man-to-man, ropes,

coherency important. EXT. 5896

GWM wants GWM to service videos and relaxed atmos. No fems. Bi OK. Hung a plus. Mature and safe. EXT. 5897

Contra Costa Co, gdlkn GWM, 26yo, 5'10, 160lbs, sks other GWM, 21-34yo, for fun, frndshp, good times. EXT. 5898

Lunch time encounters. Will suck you off at convenient bathroom. Asians only. It's easy and convenient. Me: GLM. EXT. 5899

Skn heavy-set buddy. I'm 5'9, 180lbs, 26yo, masc, enjoy outdoors. Lkn for GWM, 25-30yo, strong, football lineman type. EXT. 5900

Hot Hawaiian-Japanese, nice buns, lkn for rich sugar daddy to take care of me. EXT. 5901

Redhead, auburn, strawberry wntd by 35yo bi WM BB, hndsm and virile but sensitive also. EXT.

FREE

BAR TALK AD

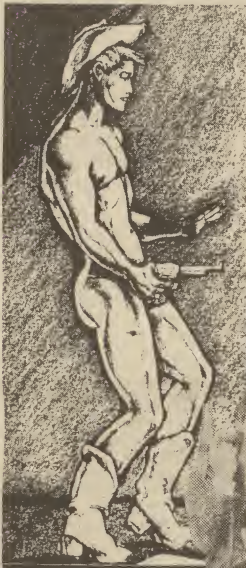
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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 12

Sometimes Dead Is Better
Staged reading of Camille Roy's absurd deathbed drama about architect Philip Johnson, with drag queen nurses hovering nearby. \$3-5. 8pm. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St. (btwn. 8th & 9th). 626-5416.

Devil-Worshipping Whores
Chris Train and the Devil Dolls, Dierdre Evans and Vampire Mike Kassel induce a sexhibitionistic evening of spoken word, priestess sermons, and satiric spectacle. \$4-5. 9pm. The Elbo Room, 647 Valencia. 558-8112.



Xavier Viramontes' etchings (Sat.)
Portraits at Azido (Sat.)
Goose and Tom Tom (Fri.)

Among My Wigs
Mark Davis' one-man show is crammed with wacky characters, from his mother Mavis, to Vikki Kitt, lounge singer, & Vishnu Tao, HIV quack. Be prepared to laugh yourself silly. \$10. 8pm (also 10pm Fri.). Thru Sun. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Goose and Tom Tom
David Rabe's surreal comedy about petty criminals and their gun moll. \$8. 8pm. Thru 4/25. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

Claustrophilia
Satirical dramatization of Edgar Allan Poe's literary lunacy. Also *The Ghoul* and *Amherst*, an arch look at Emily Dickinson. \$12-14. 8pm. Thru 4/21. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. 626-9196.

Fefu & Her Friends
In Focus Theatre Company's production of a play about Fefu, an unusual mentor to seven young women. \$8-10. 8:30pm. Sun. at 4pm. Thru 3/28. Mission Cultural Center Theatre, 2868 Mission St. at 24th. 695-6970.

Mira, Cycle II...The Fall
Contraband's second in a trilogy of dance, song and imagery works inspired by 16th-century Indian poet and mystic Mirabai. 8:30pm. \$12-20. Thru Sun. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

Twyla's Boy
Charles E. Polly's hilarious account of growing up gay in

Appalachian Kentucky. \$7-12. Thru 3/28. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.

Unquestioned Integrity: The Hill/Thomas Hearings
Dramatic three-character version of the nation's scandalous Supreme Court confirmation hearings, using edited transcripts. \$12-21. 8:30pm. Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm. Thru 3/28. Magic's Northside Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-8822.

Caucasian Chalk Circle
Bertolt Brecht's epic play recounting the Solomon-like story, with live music originally composed for the work. \$5-7.50. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru Sun. City Theatre, City College of SF. Phelan & Judson Aves. 239-3100.



Enrique
Glam disco pop, '70s kid show themes, major bell bottoms and hair for days. This is a must-see band with true camp appeal. \$7. 9pm. The Stone, 412 Broadway. (510) 547-1954.

Muses From Chaos and Ash
Andrea Vaucher reads from her collection of talks by artists with AIDS. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0892.

Living Room Festival
Three alternative videos, *Nomadics* (griot storytelling and sand painting), *Nomadics at the 25 Door* (a woman in prison for killing her mother) & *People in Buildings* (the banality of a "built world"). 11pm. KQED, Channel 9.

Brett C. Cook-D
Paintings and performance by the artist, with a reception. 5:30-7:30pm. Thru 4/10. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 626-2787.

SATURDAY 13

Jesus Christ Superstar
Christ those pees! Holy hunkitude. No, this is not the Irene Cara big production touring version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's biblical rock opera, but a smaller regional version, entertaining nonetheless. See both! Shop and compare! \$12-18. 8pm. Sun. at 2:30pm. Thru 3/28. The Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. 329-2623.

Crimes in Hot Countries
Central Works' production of Howard Barker's dark political absurdist comedy set in a strange British outpost in a post-WWII African desert. \$8-10. 8pm. Thru 3/27. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-0753.

Gay Comedy Night
Doug Holsclaw, Amy Boyd, Karla Carmony. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

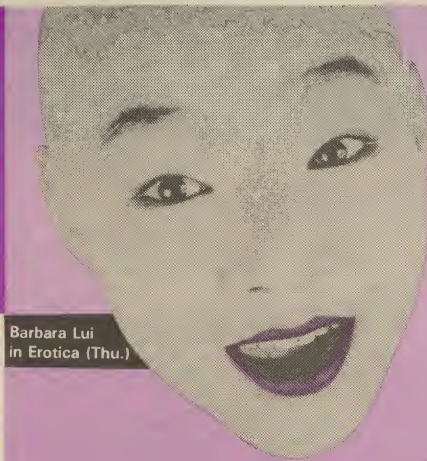
Tommi Avicoli Mecca
Columnist for "that terrific lesbian-owned paper" reads from his new political book, *Between Little Rock and a Hard Place*. 3:30pm. At 5pm, Architecture of Noise installs a construction/noise piece. Bring an instrument to play. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

LAVA Awards
Adele Prandini, Barbara Cameron and Gwen Craig will be honored with "Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action Awards," at this cocktail and dinner event, with dancing music by Second Wind, and guest speaker Margaret Cammermeyer. Proceeds benefit Bay Area Career Women's fund for lesbian community projects. \$75. 5:30-11:30pm. Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post St. 495-5393.

Sisters' Pictures
Women's videos, including Theory Girls' *You Are Like a Heroine*, a feminist re-vision of Aileen Wuornos; also *How to Kill Her*, *City of Fear*, and *One-Eyed Leads*. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Xavier Viramontes & Hideo C. Yoshida
Etchings and monoprints by two different artists, as well as six commissioned floral vessels to celebrate spring. Thru 4/3. Aru Gallery, 736 14th St. 621-1551.

Portraits
Intimate group show of sculpture and photos. Thru 3/28. Azido Arts Gallery, 560 Hayes St. 252-9001.



Barbara Lui
in Erotica (Thu.)

The religious right rants about the Gay Agenda. Well, it's time to organize ours at A **Queer Summit for the Bay Area**, an all-day program with speakers from over 100 organizations. This event will help give participants an updated schedule of events for the March on Washington April 25. Sponsored by ACTUP/East Bay Supervisors Carole Migden & Roberta Achtenberg, Lavender Greens, Harvey Milk Club and many others. March 13, 10am. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. 431-9414.

It's here again, the **AIDS Dance-a-thon**. Hoof it up with thousands of others on March 13 at Crissy Field to raise money for Bay Area AIDS organizations. Performers include Queen Latifah, who may play lesbian blues singer Bessie Smith in the bio-pic but still pals around with the likes of homophobic Shabba Ranks. Hopefully she'll get her house in order by the time we dance to her hip-hop. If you haven't registered yet, call 392-9255, or pick up a form at any area merchant. You must raise at least \$75 to get in. Volunteers are needed, so get to it, and wear sensible shoes.

In honor of National Women's Month, the **Women's Art Project** is producing a series of art exhibits and performances, among them Nao Bustamante's *A Simulated Assimilation*, and Maria St. John's *Chosen Objects*, by and about HIV-positive women. The work uses an assortment of dolls, real babies, and discourses on reproductive rights and activism. Both performances 7:30pm, March 13. \$6. A group exhibition of 16 visual artists' work will be on display through April 30 at the Women's Center, 3543 18th St., with an opening reception March 13, 6-7pm. 641-8640.



Enrique, above (Fri.)
Figure it Out, rt. (Thu.),

Toc Storee
below
(Mon.)

Living Room Festival (Fri.)
Lines Contemporary Ballet



Bay Area balletomanes have yet another opportunity to enjoy some terrific dancing with **Lines Contemporary Ballet's** new season of premieres. Artistic Director Alonzo King has four works slated for this two-week run, including *Pavane* (set to Shostakovich), *Compelling Geological Evidence* (parts I and II, both set to music by Donald Fontowitz), and the new *Gurdjeff Piano Music*. \$15-25. March 18-28. 8pm, Sundays at 7pm. The Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 281-8383.

When we featured the Hayes Valley a few months ago, several new stores were merely an idea. Now they're here, including Gimme Shoes, The Magical Trinket, Architrave and E'Space Pierrot, a wine bar and performance space. Help celebrate the "Winds of Change" at the latest **Hayes Valley Block Party**, March 12 from 7-10pm, along the 300-500 block of this queer cultural cul-de-sac. Stores and galleries will be open late for extended window-shopping. 255-9307.

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SLUG

"Worm poop is greatly desired by plants," says Carl Grimm of the SF League of Urban Gardeners. Find out why at this compost workshop. 10am. Garden for the Environment, 7th Ave. & Lawton. 285-SLUG.

SUNDAY 14

Justin Bond
Drag cabaret at its campiest, with accompanist Kenneth Mellman. \$2. 8pm. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market St. at Sanchez.

Spasm
Performance lecture by Arthur & Marilouise Kroker (authors of the *Panic Encyclopedia*) about the body in the age of technoterrorism. A video, music and audio exploration of new sexual realms beyond gender. 8pm. Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave. (510) 642-1412.

Droids, Polds & Voids
Triple decker of cinematic space robot oddities: *Creation of the Humanoids*, *Sins of the Fleshpoids*, and *No Such Thing as Gravity*. \$5. SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut. 558-8129.

Tiptoe Through the Tulips
HIV positives go to Tulipmania. 10:45am. Pier 39 entrance (free). Followed by lunch at Dante's (dutch). RSVP Roger: 476-6627.

MONDAY 15

Naomi Wolf & Susie Bright
The Beauty Myth author is interviewed by the outspoken Sexpert in a provocative discussion of advertising, femininity, anorexia, and beauty. \$14. Proceeds benefit the Women's Foundation. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 141 Kearny. 392-4400.

Toc Storee
Ming-Yuen S. Ma's video addressing tradition and identity in Asian gay contexts. Also: *Fated to be Queer* and *Women of Gold*, about Asian lesbian jocks! Part of the Asian American International Film Showcase. 9pm. AMC Kabuki Theatre, 1881 Post St. 863-0814.

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Maria Falzone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

TUESDAY 16

Memory Tricks
Marga Gomez reflects on life with her show-biz mom in '60s Harlem in an engagingly touching monologue. \$10. 8pm. (Tue. & Wed. shows benefit AIDS Emergency Fund). Thru 3/21. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

The Real Live Brady Bunch
Marsha, Greg, Cindy, even Alice all come to hyper adult theatrical life in this wacky yet earnest tribute to TV's pinnacle of vapid suburbia and vintage bell bottoms. \$18.50-25.50. 8pm, Fri. & Sat. at 7, 9:30 & 12am. Thru 4/11. Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary at Jones. 776-1999.

Feminist Politics & Spirituality
Workshop led by Felicity Artemis Flowers, feminist theorist and ritual priestess, on Goddess religion and Feminist witchcraft. \$10. 7-10pm. New College of California, 777 Valencia St. 255-2940.

Steve Abbott
Memorial reading to honor the author of *Holy Terror* and *A View Askew*. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

WEDNESDAY 17

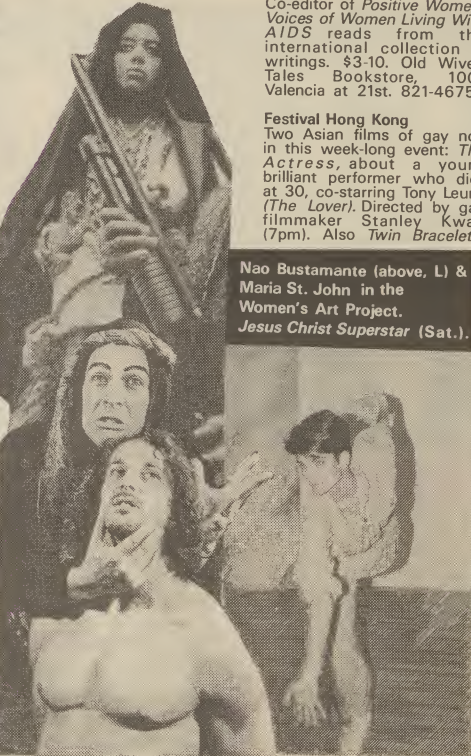
Mea Culpa, Chuck Connors
Charles Dean's humorous solo performance about the trials of an actor's odyssey. \$12-18. 8pm. Thru 4/11. Sun. at 2pm. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. (510) 843-4822.

James Robert Baker
Readings by the author of *Tim and Pete*, a new queer novel and "1990 gay version

of *A Clockwork Orange*." 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891. Baker will also read on Thursday, 12:30pm, at Alexander Book Company, 50 2nd St., and at 8pm (Thru.) at The Lab, 1807 Divisadero. 346-4063.

Barbary Coast Boating Club
Gay boat owners and enthusiasts. 7pm. Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina, 1 Seawall Dr. 905-6267.

Simple Courage
Compelling documentary about the leper colony on the Hawaiian island of Molokai, with parallels to the AIDS crisis. \$4. 4:30pm. AMC Kabuki Theatre. 863-0814.



Nao Bustamante (above, L) & Maria St. John in the Women's Art Project. *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Sat.).

Erotica

Music, dance and drag by Hyperdrive Sex Kittens, Fat Chance Belly Dance, Acid Housewife, Barbara Liu, Dominique Lowell, Carol Queen, and vintage erotic videos. MC Christine Beatty. Proceeds benefit Coyote, the sex workers' education group. \$7. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St. 558-8112.

Ms. Stripper of the Year
A sensual contest in disrobing techniques. \$10. Proceeds benefit Glide's soup kitchen and St. Anthony's dining room. 8pm. Pleasuredome, 174 King St. 346-8908.

Darien Taylor
Co-editor of *Positive Women: Voices of Women Living With AIDS* reads from this international collection of writings. \$3-10. Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia at 21st. 821-4675.

Festival Hong Kong
Two Asian films of gay note in this week-long event: *The Actress*, about a young brilliant performer who died at 30, co-starring Tony Leung (*The Lover*). Directed by gay filmmaker Stanley Kwan (7pm). Also *Twin Bracelets*,

THURSDAY 18

Runaways
Elizabeth Swados' moving, musically progressive ensemble play about street Latinos, blacks, and deaf kids, all runaways from abusive homes. \$10. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. thru 3/27. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

a gripping drama of two women in love in a small village (9:45). UC Theatre, 2036 University Ave. near Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 843-6267.

Figure It Out
Group art exhibit exploring the radical mutation of the human figure. A diverse collection in a labyrinthine space. Ghia Gallery, 2648 3rd St. 282-2832.

Nutrition and HIV Food supplements, nutrients, local resources will be discussed. March 17, 7-9pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 476-3902.

Positive Motion Support group for men living with HIV using movement, voice, drawing, writing and touch. Taught by Anna Halprin. \$60-150. Six-week series. March 1-April 5, 6:30-9:30pm. Dance Keriak Studio, 1805 Divisadero at Bush. 461-9479.

P-FLAG Neil Kaminsky speaks on "Homophobic messages in our society." Monthly support group. 2-4pm. March 14. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church at Market. 921-8850.

New Horizons, Rainbow's End Two gay, lesbian and questioning youth support groups, for ages 22-29, 14-23. Both March 18. Spectrum: 457-1115.

Stop AIDS Project Couples Meeting Frank discussions about the impact of HIV on men in couples. 621-7177.

Shanti Project Annual Meeting Open discussion of the organization, and hopefully, their financial problems. March 18, 5:30-7pm. Conference Room 1, Levi Strauss Plaza, 1155 Battery St. 777 CARE.

Hearing Loss and Communication Classes for people with HIV/AIDS \$60 (no one turned away for lack of funds). March 13 & 20, 9am-noon. Hearing Society for the Bay Area, Tenth St. 863-4710 (voice), 863-2550 (TDD).

Women's Action Coalition Meets each Tuesday, 7:30pm. The Women's Bldg. 3543 18th St. (510) 869-2584.

Face to Face Advocate Training For volunteers who want to provide direct emotional support to PWAs and PWHIV. Begins April 7. Advanced reg. required. David: (707) 887-1581.

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Pepper Chicken — sauteed peppered chicken breast with vermouth-cream sauce, served with fettucini alfredo 9.75

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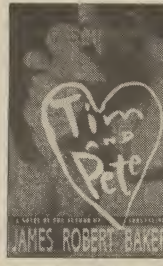
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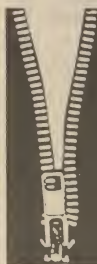
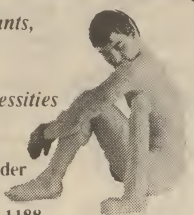
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Mr. Marcus

Next: Intl. Ms. Leather 1993



Ten of the contestants at last year's International Ms. Leather contest. San Francisco's "Blair" won it. Two months later, San Francisco's Lenny Broberg won the International Mr. Leather title, quite possibly the only time this will happen.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

The seventh International Ms. Leather will be chosen on Saturday afternoon, March 20, at Club Townsend, 177 Townsend. Doors open at 1500, and the contest and show begin promptly at 1530. Tickets are going fast and are on sale at Stormy Leather (1158 Howard) for \$20, and you can charge them to your Visa or Mastercard. Choice tables for 10 persons for \$225 are available if you really want to do it right! Tickets are also available by calling (415) 861-0373 or at the door with limited seating available. Get there early! And you can stay and dance after the competition until at least 2200.

At my deadline, the list of judges had not been finalized, but there are almost 10 contestants this year and it promises to be another hot afternoon with fantasies, entertainment and lots of hobnobbing. You know producer Audrey Joseph will not disappoint!

The first IMs.L weekend function kicks off on Thursday, March 18, with Sheila Courser's Second Annual Ms. Stripper of the Year contest at Pleasuredome (174 King Street). Doors open at 1900, and the show starts promptly at 2000. Tickets are \$10 and a percentage goes to Glide Memorial Church's Soup Kitchen and St. Anthony's

Dining Room. Call (415) 346-8908 for more details about entering, etc.

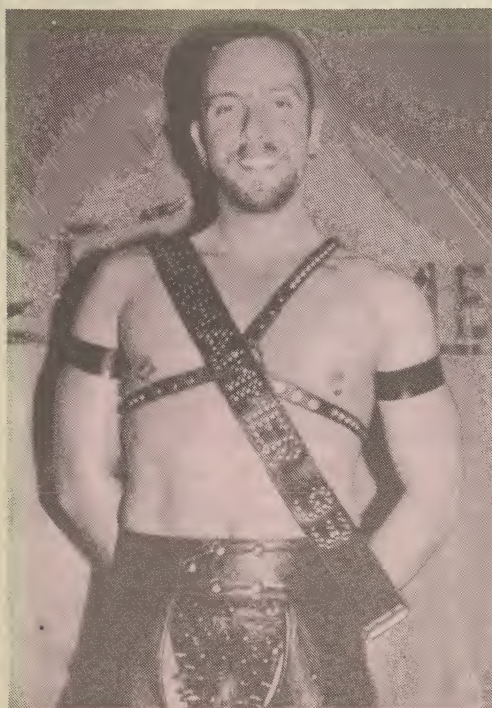
On Friday, March 19, meet all the contestants, judges and VIPLs (Very Important Personages of Lesbian Leather) at a beer/soda bust with finger food for only \$8 at the Eagle from 2000-2300. Links will also be having a play party later on, and you know how to contact them for location and details.

Saturday afternoon, March 20, is the official contest as stated above. Pat Califia hosts the play party later that night at Club Eros. On Sunday, March 21, the no-host victory brunch takes place at Hamburger Mary's, with a farewell and thanks to outgoing IMs.L Blair and a reception for Blair's successor. Mary's always goes all out for parties of this type. The official lodging is the Travelodge at Market/Valencia, and it promises to be a hot weekend for leather men and women alike.

Lots of out-of-town leather visitors (both men and women) are making the trip here, so I hope you're out there to help meet and greet them and make them feel welcome. You let the IMs.L. board of directors know in no uncertain terms that you wanted this contest to continue, so get out there and support our leather sisters!

★ ★ ★

Later on Saturday night, March 20, the annual Cable Car Awards and Show will bring hundreds out to the Fashion Center (8th & Townsend) to pay respect to honorees and vote for certain categories. Remember, the voting will be in progress from 1600-1800, so get out there and make your selections. And don't get run over by those fast-moving BACW women in the voting area. They certainly can lobby the lobby!



Greg Byfield won the first Mr. Jackhammer Leather contest last Wednesday, March 3 over six other contestants.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued on page 49)

(Continued from previous page)

★ ★ ★

The Jackhammer Bar made its foray into the world of leather competition last Wednesday, March 3, with a well-paced debut featuring seven contestants; vocal entertainment by Fred Hughes between the cruising wear, jockstrap and full-leather appearances; and the inimitable Carlos as the emcee. With a no-nonsense approach to his task, Carlos was in complete charge of the proceedings in a completely refreshing display of a unique style not often seen in this town. Great!

The event played before a packed house of enthusiastic people, some witnessing a leather contest for the first time. Since the Jackhammer bills itself as "A Working Man's Bar," the first appearance was in "construction" wear, followed by the customary jockstraps (lots of whoops and hollers), and finally, in full leather with questions from the audience. The unique thing about this contest is that no judges were utilized (ostensibly depoliticizing the process); the winner (and runner-up) were chosen by foolproof audience voting. When a total of 67 votes were counted, Greg Byfield took the \$500 cash prize and the sash, and the runner-up, Bob Hurd, got \$150. The other contestants were David Williamson, Omar Kubian, Michael Marrero, A. Jack Robson and Todd Bishop — a

great lineup of macho men. Greg will compete in the Mr. SF Leather competition on April 3. And Jackhammer management stated that if he doesn't win there, he'll be sent to Chicago at their expense to compete at IML, raising the total prize a possible \$1000 more! Big hand for the Jackhammer's first outing; things look better and better at that bar.

Next night, Thursday, March 4, the Eagle staged the first of three heats in their search for Mr. SF Eagle Leather. Judges Mike McNamee, Lenny Broberg, Joseph Bean and Marcus Wonacutt had a good time questioning the three contestants, and when it was all over, Patrick Rushing took first place and Brett Brockschmidt was the runner-up. The second heat is tonight, Thursday, March 11, at 2200. Patrick and Brett will compete for the title on March 25.

The L/SM Roundup people commandeered the Church Street Station parking lot on Saturday, March 6, for their sale (no report on the amount raised at my deadline), and the Northern California Leather Association of the Deaf raised \$700 at their garage sale. Nice going! Sunday, the Cycle Runners ruled/hosted the beer/soda bust at the Eagle with the Constantines and other clubs helping pour the beer. No matter what job they give Frank Naccarato, he revels in doing it well. The chicken



Mr. SF-Eagle Leather first heat winners (l) Brett Brockschmidt (runner-up) and Patrick Rushing. They'll both compete for the title on March 25. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

and accessories were superb! The Satyricons of Las Vegas left town completely amazed at our generosity — \$2000 plus for the Nevada AIDS Project, courtesy of the efforts of the Pacific Bears LMC. Good show all week all around.

★ ★ ★

According to International National Leather Association co-chair Sallee Huberman, you'll be glad to know that the NLA has announced the relocation of their headquarters to San Francisco after several years of being headquartered in Seattle — effective immediately. They're hunting for office space already and changing their stationery, cards and publications to their 584 Castro, Box 444 address in San Francisco in beautiful downtown 94114. Any real estate type leather men or women out there who can find a SOMA location of about 300 sq. feet for the NLA? Contact me. And better news: Joseph Bean has been named publications chair; he'll edit *Quarterlink*, an official publication of the NLA. As the former editor of *Drummer*, Joseph should



Men of the Jackhammer (l to r): Carlos the emcee, Mr. Jackhammer Greg Byfield, runner-up Bob Hurd and bar co-owner, John, last Wednesday, March 3. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Affairs to Remember

Thursday, March 11: Mr. Pit Leather contest (9th & Howard), a one-night competition to pick their contestant in the Mr. SF Leather event next month. It all begins at 2100 with fun and surprises and continues with dancing until 0400 the next morning! Are you man enough to be Mr. Pit? Thanks, John Lopez, for a good year!

Second Heat, Mr. SF Eagle Leather contest begins at 2200 tonight. Winner and runner-up compete in the finals on March 25 for \$300 cash, title vest and a try at the Mr. SF Leather contest.

Weekend March 12-14: Leatherfest V in San Diego. Three days of events, including demonstrations, awards banquet, workshops, raffles, Mr. Wolf's (bar) contest (Saturday night, March 13), a Dungeonfest, CCMC & Knights on Iron Bike run, and afterglow parties at the Hole, Pecs, Flame and Wolf's. All to benefit Special Delivery (meals delivered to homes of AIDS patients). Main meeting place is the Holiday Inn Mission Valley on I-8. Need more info? Call (619) 285-7572.

Saturday, March 13:

Mr./Ms. Watering Hole Richard and Kelly present a beer/soda bust beginning at 1700, with special demos on body piercing, bondage, a 50/50 raffle and a flogging demo to benefit the Women's Health Center — no price mentioned in my press release.

Cal Eagles MC first run of the year to Oakland/Berkeley Hills firestorm area, spring blooms in Contra Costa County, lunch in Martinez and on to John Muir National Historic Site. Meet at The Bear on Castro at 0930, depart at 1000, returning by 1700. Bring at least \$10 for tolls, lunch, park fees. Call their hotline (415) 267-0560.

Mr. Northern California Drummer Boy Matthew Joseph hosts a No Bullshit beer bust at the Eagle on Saturday night, March 13, for \$6. No auction. No entertainment. Just a 50/50 raffle to benefit the AIDS Health Project and Northern California Drummer Boy Travel Fund.

Sunday, March 14: Those spiffy Black & Tans of Los Angeles host their third annual beer/soda bust in SF at Headquarters today from 1500-1900 — uniforms are encouraged. Larry Odhner will be in absolute heav-

en! Again, no price listed on the flier. Hi, Betty Crocker!

SF GDIs beer/soda bust at the Watering Hole from 1600-1900 for only \$7, with kinky hot dogs. Tony Larkins says his buns will be "just fluffed enough for prying." Oh really?!

Monday, March 15: Jim Leff's new oil painting show, "Urban People," goes up on the walls at the Lone Star Saloon today, with a reception for the artist on Wednesday, March 17, from 2000-2200. Always great!

Clippers (the haircut mavens) party at Headquarters tonight beginning at 2030. Come and get clipped, meet clippers, clippees and cop a clipped joint by the clippers of both Northern and Southern California. No price given, but lots of surprises guaranteed.

Wednesday, March 17: Looking for Mr. February '94 on the Watering Hole's Butts to Boot calendar at 2130. Show your ass. Win \$75.

Thursday, March 18: Second Annual Ms. Stripper of the Year Contest at 174 King Street, kicking off IML weekend. Be there! ▼

have a field day with this one!

Scott O'Hara, a dude who made a big impression on quite a few people around the world (he won the Biggest Dick in SF contest way back when), left town a few years ago and settled in Cazenovia, Wisconsin, a place I imagine to be one of the slowest lanes in America. Anyway, with so much time on his hands, Scott dreamed up the publication of a quarterly mag called *Steam*, which will list public sex sites in every conceivable place but your own bed, including parks, tea rooms, bathhouses, beaches around the world — you name it — even bars where public sex is allowed and to hell with the license! You can get four issues a year for only \$17 (\$19.50 in Canada) by sending your money to PDA Press, Rte. 2, Box 1215, Cazenovia, WI 53924. You'll especially love the column by Betty Pearl. ▼

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In Memory of Lucy And Dick

I'd like to thank Emperor XIX, the Scarlet Classic Emperor of Portland, for accepting the \$1,000 that benefits last month at the Swallow and Gilmore's raised for "Our House" of Portland in memory of Lucy (a.k.a. Lynn Bumpus).

Speaking of that great, gay Oregon city, Coronation '93 is on Oct. 23. The theme is "I Could Have Danced All Night: Hollywood's Greatest Musicals." Should we go into rehearsals right now, Greta Grass?

Flash: Empress Maxine can now be seen on the plank at Old Rick's Gold Room on Geary Street between Larkin and Polk. So do drop by and have a cocktail with her.

March 14 at 4 p.m., the Cinch Saloon will be having its St. Patty's Day party with a live Irish band and an Irish buffet. Colleen Mario will be your hostess, so don't miss this one.

On March 17, Gilmore's will be having a great St. Patrick's Day party with corned beef and all the trimmings. Come on down and have an Irish Coffee as only St. Paul (Ruehl) can make them.

Yes, you can still find the talented Scottie McClain on the plank at the very popular Wooden Horse on Polk Street. I understand that Em-

press Sissy Spaceout is also appearing there, too.

"Somewhere Over the Rainbow" Emperor Bob Pace invites you to evening with Scottie McClain. The March 13, 8 p.m., show at Chez Mollet is a benefit for Continuum. Gladys Bumps is your special hostess. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Wooden Horse, the Kokpit and Chez Mollet.

Incidentally, by the time you read this I will have been on the wagon 17 days. I hope you have too, Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue.

Lily's has a new bartender by the name of Ed Bussell. Drop in and say hi. He works days, and of course they still have the great Rip on the plank at night.

Charpe's Bar and Grille on Gough Street will be having a special St. Patty's Day dinner, so call and make your reservations early at 621-6766.

One March 13, there will be 3 p.m. services at Old St. Mary's Church, California and Grant, for Dick Petroff, followed by a 4 p.m. celebration of his life at Gilmore's. We'll be looking forward to seeing Dick's many friends at both events. Dick died of a heart attack in Mexico on March 1. He will be missed by all. Please make contributions to the Godfather Fund in his memory. ▼



Get your Continuum benefit tickets at the Wooden Horse (pictured here), The Kokpit and Chez Mollet. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



The Mira Cycle II environment is stark and evocative.

(Photo: Nina Glaser)

Contraband

(Continued from page 33)

exquisite music and movement by a tight team of dancers and musicians follow. Lanterns swing above; sounds layer in over each other in a primal, relentless song. Lighting designers Jack Carpenter and Elaine Buckholtz, set designer Lauren Elder, and sound designer Oriol Galofre have created a stark, evocative environment.

The company dancers (in black/white/gray costumes suggestive of fragmentary formal wear) are all polished performers, athletic, exploding into jumps, lifts, tumbles, and turns, and lots of same-sex duet work. There is contact, conflict, complement and the discovery that the accordion really isn't the most unlikely instrument to accompany post-modern moves.

Outstanding Interplay

The interplay of the five dancers, who shift focus, as single performers are set off against two pairs, or a still,

solitary body counters a quartet in motion in split-focus scenes and fresh configurations, is outstanding. Naked bodies provide counterpoint to clothed counterparts, the primal embracing the civilized.

Contraband displays tremendous energy and enthusiasm in its work.

Promises of endless love and the inevitable betrayal that ensues are executed with a calculated abandon by an ensemble committed to work and risk. Meanwhile, Mann transforms from white-washed goddess to the Little Tramp to a figure caught in a snow globe's flurry of feathers.

Unfortunately, a performer's manipulation of an axe, which seems to be about showing the danger of an axe on stage, and the text-heavi-

ness of the second half weaken the piece. The company would benefit from a bit more judicious use of the spoken word — often its deliberate disjointedness is expendable.

However, Contraband does serve up some searing images — both visually and aurally — displays tremendous energy and enthusiasm in its work, and skillfully blends the mystical and the mundane, with a good dose of humor. The points aren't always clearly defined, but that's not as bothersome as it might be because the company's sheer theatricality springs from a consistently riveting fusion of forms — it is quite simply exhilarating to watch Contraband in performance. ▼

Author's note: Keith Hennessey is currently on sabbatical. Peter Overton, who has worked with the High Risk Group, Anah K. Coates, and Tracy Rhoades, joins Contraband for Mira, Cycle II and performs the role originated by Hennessey.

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Mr. Marcus

Bears

(Continued from page 33)

these in stores?" asked Tidal Hudson, from Oakland. "All I see is skinny, wispy types."

Someone mentioned the upcoming premiere of the first "bear-type" Falcon video, in which the studio won't shave their models. Still, no one expects the models to be what they consider real bears.

"Bears are very selective about jewelry," said Wayne Kelley, who was selling body adornments in the shape of anchors and swords. A booth staffed by salespeople from The Crypt offered leather goods, whips and chains. A few elderly conventiongoers from the Stamp Fair next door wandered into Bear Expo by mistake and beat a hasty retreat. General hilarity ensued when it was discovered that the Girth & Mirth Club had been given the smallest possible meeting room.

Hot, Hairy Images

At the Bear's Lair BBS (Bulletin Board System) booth, computer-generated images of hot, hairy men flashed across the PC screen. Computer bulletin boards are so popular among this group that the technology merited its own discussion group. BBSs are providing the focus for coalescing regional bear clubs in geographically disparate cities like Los Angeles, where organizing is difficult.

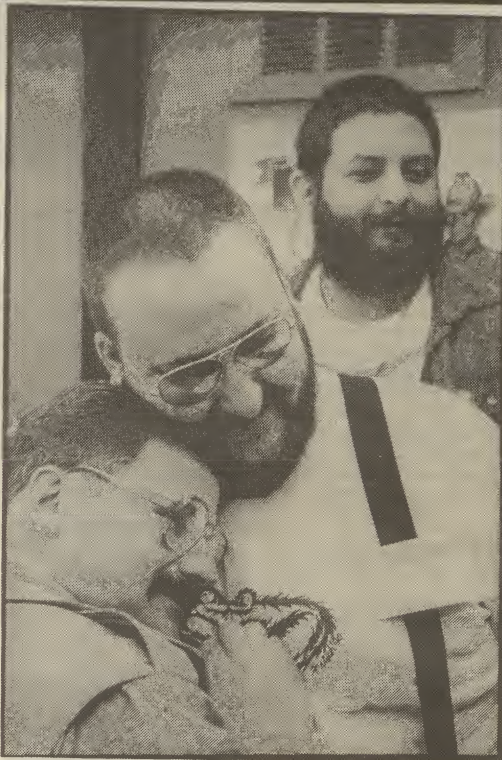
But a founder of the Colorado club Front Range Bears voiced a caution: "When you get entrenched in electronic means, you disenfranchise a large part of the community."

I had begun to wonder if the bear phenomenon, despite its blue collar ethos, was another perk of white, middle-class gay men. To log on to a BBS, you need a PC with a modem. To build a nice, hefty paunch, you've got to be able to afford putting on the feedbag on a regular basis.

At one forum I raised my concerns that many of the signifiers of the bear which we were all exalting as sexy and desirable — copious body hair, say, or full beards — were genetically impossible for some races. I met no Asian bears at the expo, for example. Weren't we guilty of claiming some racial traits were manlier than others?

I was put in my place immediately by a handsome bearded man, one of two African-American attendees I noticed. There was nothing racist in finding certain traits attractive, he said; there is no affirmative action in the bedroom. Gay men will not stand for charges of political correctness when it comes to sexual fetishes, and more power to us for that. We know from practical experience that the freedom to whatever turns us on is our fundamental liberty.

Chastened, I retreated to Les Wright's "What is a Bear?" session. Wright offered this caveat before we began: "If you get five gay men in a room, there will be 12 opinions, and by the end of it, everyone will have changed their mind anyway." He was right.



Big guys, big hearts: bearhugging at Bear Expo.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"There's only two kinds of gay men, bears and gazelles," opined a beefy chap.

"I called myself a teddy bear, then I just dropped the teddy," said another.

"Being a bear is self-defined. This is about tolerance, acceptance and inclusion."

I was beginning to discern two distinct traits of beardedness. On the one hand, a certain love of hypermasculine imagery, as evidenced in the lumberjack, country/western, leather or regular workin' guy looks. On the other hand, a real embrace of male nurturing energy, the reclaiming, if you will, of a trait long considered feminine.

What is a bear? A bear is a gay man who has a spiritual affinity with that word, just as faeries are gays who feel called by that term.

I saw and experienced the latter often that weekend in the plethora of "bear hugs," not the awkward A-frame hugs of straight men on a drumming retreat, but full-on body embraces, with ursine rubbing and commingling of many body parts.

My Bear Epiphany

But my bear epiphany came at Tom Gilles' seminar on American Indian bear ceremonies. Gilles brought with

him the pelt of a 15-year-old brown bear, and he spoke of the Indian belief that "the line between humans and bears is not that sharp," as one can become the other during ceremonial bear dances, or by a sort of possession by the bear spirit.

Native tribes invoked bear spirit for healing, and Gilles sees in the bear movement the potential for its adherents to become healers as well as warriors, "for a community that needs both right now."

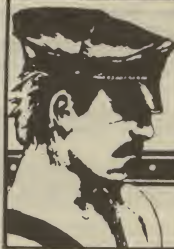
"Everyone is looking for their totem, everyone needs their connection to a power source," said Gilles, and groups of gay men are finding the bear to be just that. I began to understand the bear phenomenon as another manifestation of the new tribalism, a clan finding and naming itself.

What is a bear? A bear is a gay man who has a spiritual affinity with that word, just as faeries are gays who feel called by that term. As the gay community matures we are realizing that we are not a seamless whole, but an affiliation of clans — leatherfolk, bears, faeries, faggots, dykes, the list goes on. Like any clan, the bears have their elders, their rituals (beer busts), their tribal markings (piercings, tats). I felt lucky to have the opportunity to hang out in their lair for a weekend.

As it turns out I was wrong; I did have sex at the Bear Expo, a respite from the festivities for what my seducer euphemistically called a lunch break. Up on the 26th floor I was stripped, bound in wrist and ankle restraints and ravaged by a consummate bear.

"When you write about me, be kind," he said, striking a pose as I took my leave.

"I will," I promised, glad to add campy hauteur to my list of identifying bear traits. ▼

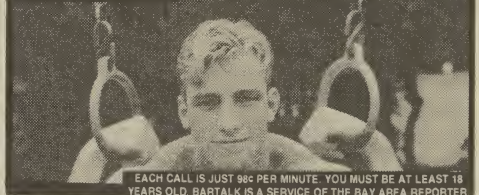


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\$2/MINUTE ADULTS ONLY 6 2 5 3

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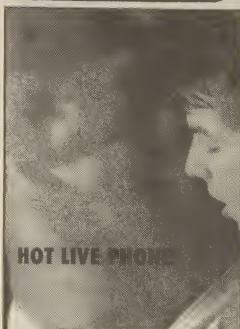
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Every Day. Join in!

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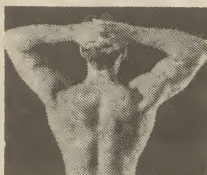


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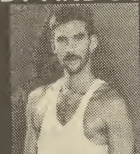
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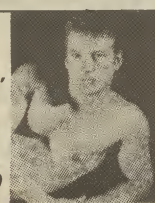
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Full-body erotic massage by blond, muscular surfer in the nude! Come and relax. Sean (510) 639-7086

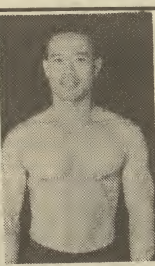
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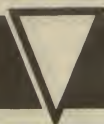
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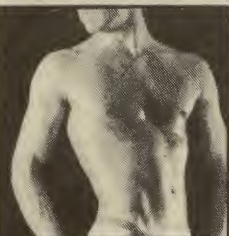


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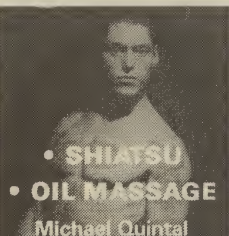
Your body and soul with a man who knows how to rub and take control. I'm hard as a rock and hot as a pistol and sure as hell know how to please you. So give me your back and give me the slack so I can get down deep in all of the cracks. Brad 861-1805

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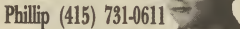
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PAGE 698-CUTE!

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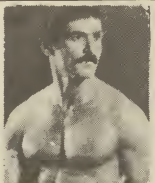
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Deep, warm oil Castro CMT
\$45/90 min. Gary 252-0675

South Bay Area

★ SEXY LATIN ★

25 y/o, handsome, smooth, firm
Carlo pgr. (408) 975-8203

DOUBLE PLEASURE

Full body sensual massage
Done in the nude by two warm caring sensual guys
Call anytime 822-3534

Kory (415) 773-9130

SMOOTH, MUSCULAR
Nice Body, Great Touch!

JUST RELAX!

Enjoy a healing Swedish/Acupressure massage. Tailored to fit your needs.
Call Darryl at (415) 861-6351 to leave a message or page me at (415) 978-7209 (Punch in your phone # then hang up)



MIKE & JEFF 641-0780

"The quotations don't do you justice!"
Restauranteur
"Understated in every way! Actor"
"You've fulfilled one of my fantasies!"
Architect

Boys to men. Prostate Massage by handsome man. Phil \$30 252-9421

Very cute, boyish, 22 y/o blond/blue/tan/smooth/hot
HOT NUDE MASSAGE
24 hrs. 905-4548 L.v. \$80/Up

Asian American Masseuse
Certified \$50/60 285-9019

RAMON BURGOS-RUIZ INVIGORATING

Bodywork by C.M.T. Bodybuilder
255-4741 90 min. \$45 Castro

Marin-SF Hot BB Massage 10 am-10 pm \$50/70 Ken 459-4217

★ All the Right Places ★
MAJOR SF HOTELS
Smooth, Blond, 28
In/Out, 24 hrs., 773-9130

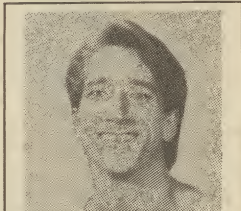
Sensual Msg., Escort, & More
Hot Jock, 821-1674 Kevin
ASIAN DREAM

BODYWORK

Therapeutic Massage given by a Certified Masseuse with a background in Psychology, Sociology, Human Sexuality and the arts. Call: 775-4771 24-hrs.



DEEP SWEDISH
CURTIS CMT. 255-0976
\$35/hr., \$45/1½-HR.



HEY! RELAX!

Stiff Neck? Tight Shoulders?
Just Need To Unwind?
Deeply Effective, Highly Experienced Therapist
Heat Treatment—Non-Oil Lotion
Pleasant, Clean Surroundings
8am-10pm Daily Ken 928-8160

RELAX...

Treat yourself to a strong yet soothing massage by a caring & sensitive professional in a warm & cozy environment.

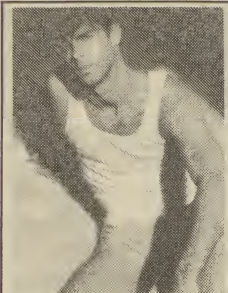
ERIK GEORGE CMT

\$40/HR. \$55/1½ HR.
552-1183 10 AM-8PM



People and Personals

MASSAGE



**Nurturing/Caring
Massage**
550-0833

**B. A. R. CLASSIFIEDS
GET RESULTS!!
Call 415-861-5019**

NR SF AIRPORT
Fullbody massage your way
CMT Ken \$40 in \$50 out
343-7140

All men 50+. Best \$35 massage.
Great! Nick 552-5059 E12

\$30 Erotic Massage
★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★ E12

Nude mas by w/ built man
41 dwtwn 398-2441 24 hr Mark E11

HANS
NORWEGIAN MAN
Extraordinary handsome, 33,
6', 195 lb., great tan body
friendly masseur I am, I
give 1 1/2 hr super massage
in nude; Japan Center
\$45/55 24 hours.
292-2373 E10

EROTIC SENS TOUCH
nude massage by muscular
college dude 26, 6'2"
185, 8 1/2 x 6. Let me relieve
you of your stress. 45in.
ph. Anthony (415) 861-6027 E10

REJUVENATE

Dynamic Energy
Relieve Muscle
Tension
Swedish. Shiatsu
Ecstatic Breathwork

90 min./\$45
Castro Area
JOHN
CMT '86
255-8612



LOVING STROKES
Nurturing sensual healing
satisfying massage provid-
ed by athletic man with
strong hands & great touch.
Steve, CMT 821-2985,
\$45, 90 min. Avail eves &
Mon. thru Thur. anytime.
Outcalls also.



**The
BODYMECHANIC**
THERAPEUTIC
MASSAGE
AND
FITNESS TRAINING
Keep your body in tune!
Dan 567-9698
CPFT, CMT



TOUCH HEALS

Certified Massage
\$15/30 min., \$30/1 Hour,
\$45/1 1/2 Hrs.
(415) 386-0152
John

San Jose • Swedish Massage
\$30/hr., \$45/1 1/2 hrs, in call
Anthony (408) 288-6169 E11

Patrick 255-3086 \$40 75Min.
FRIENDLY & DISCREET
6'3", 210 LB., **STRONG**
Gentle to deep Swedish
Style by caring masculine
man-near 3 Market St. GymSE10

►► Nude Erotic Massage ◀◀
FORTY DOLLAR SPECIAL
Hot handsome hung stud
★ Jimbo 560-2424 ★ E10

EAST BAY
Professional full body
massage in Lafayette by
CMT. Light to deep work
Quiet, relaxing environment
\$40 In only. HIV+ Discount
Call Larry (510) 283-6217 E11

PURE PLEASURE
Massage by handsome
muscular Latin man with
gifted hands.
Fernando. CMT (415) 552-8947 E10



Relax with a very
smooth Asian. Bpr. 207-2333 E11

Try Joey's.
HOT ★ HOT ★ HOT
Massage. Dk Hair, grn eyes
Italian Stud
Joey 621-0469 24 hrs E10

Castro/Church
FULL BODY RELIEF
Major SF Hotels 773-9130 E10
Pt. Rich/Shiatsu/Hot Tub ★
(510) 741-0444 Beeper ★ ★ E10
773-8752 Young Top Stud
Expert Sensual Massage E10

**PHYSICAL
ATTRACTION**
V-handsome Scandinavian man.
weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut,
blond/blue, 6', 185
Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage
45 in 55 out **931-3263** Ron 24 hrs

SENSUAL TOUCH
massage to soothe & nurture you
therapeutic-healing to erotic
skilled hands, caring spirit
60min-\$30 CMT 90min-\$40
KRIS 621-4099

Tired of big ads with attitude?
Hairy, muscular student
Rubs—and treats—U right!
Andy 255-2392 E10

LET DADDY DO YOU!
For the fit man who wants
A hot, very well-defined
muscular mid-40s masseur
Help relieve stress. Put
yourself in a man's hands.
Call Ron 563-2392. 5'10", 180 E11

EAST BAY BEAR
Gives nude erotic massage
Handsm, Hairy, healthy, Hung
Andy (510) 481-2513. Late O.K. E10

Smooth-Friendly-Athletic
SF HOTELS • 24-HR.
Full Body 773-9130 E10

LATIN MUSCLE
Deep sensous professional
massage by strong, caring
student. Call 282-6973 E10

Kory (415) 773-9130
THE BEST IN TOWN
Expert Personal Attention E10

**STRONG
BODYWORK**
Bodybuilder uses strength
& sensitive touch to release
stress in full-body
massage. \$50/in
Glen, CMT 558-9727 E10

**This could be your
classified ad!!**

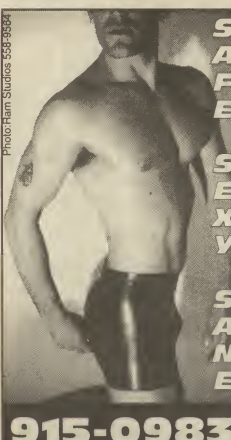
Shape Shift

Personal Fitness Trainer
A.C.E. Certified
Certified Masseuse
Martin Freeman
415-552-9187

MODELS & ESCORTS

ASIAN SMOOTH BOY
body rub, erotic play and
relaxation. Berkeley/In SF/Out
'til late (510) 841-8181 E10

Mature Experienced Hunky
FF Top 552-2046
5'7", 125 lbs., 42 y/o Brn. \$100 E10



915-0983



POSITIVITY IN 1993
★ 12 INCHES ★
-HOT-HANDSOME-
Vacu-pump demon., 775-6544
Blk., 210 lbs., in/out, Jack

Great Hands—Sling—Dildoes
FFrank 885-1471 E10

Gd/kg, 6'1", 165 lbs.
ASIAN TOP
\$60 Jim 267-1817 E15

Hairy bearded man for hire.
40, 6'2", 180, hung long/thick
Steven 431-5974 SF-SFO E10

Escort/Massage
5'11", 145#, 23, brn/grn 8 1/2"
Call Jon 24 hrs.: 207-9057 E10

INCREDIBLE PECS

Washboard ABS, Great Buns, Hot
Hung, smooth, handsome, B.B.
Jeff, \$100 (415) 386-9069 E10

Total
Relaxation
Vanilla To
Kink
Your Game
My Move
Troy
864-5711 E10

23 yr. • old • Aussie •
Blond • 5'7" • 140 lbs. • 8 1/2" uncut
out • only • for • men • 45+ • \$100
pgr. • 698-0858 E10

THE RIGHT STUFF!
HOT ITAL./BLK VERS.
28, 6'2", 195#, 8" Thick
\$125 (510) 247-2224 Jerome E10

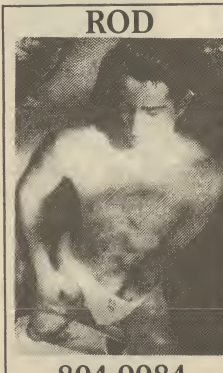
Sculptured Muscular B/B Top
Out Only. Bud. 648-1762 E10

HUNG HAIRY
VERY MASC. MUSC. BODY
Versatile Adult Film Perf.
Top Outcall
ROD BPR. 677-4718 E10

Hot straight looking Stud
Great ass, great mouth
sexy 24 y/o, Jason 552-8301 E10

8x6 head & balls crammed
in Levi leg. Burt 648-1812 E10

Beefy Texas
FARM BOY
Virgil 719-5514 E10



804-9984



9" STUDMUFFIN
Cute, Young Top
KURT 665-9903

EX-MILITARY
HANDSOME, HUNG BIG
WELL-BUILT, DEFINED
NASTY AND VERBAL
Luke 552-0453 E10

I STRIP 4 U
6', Blond, Gd/kg, Hung top
Fantasy OK. Max 668-5002 E10

19 Y.O. BOY
Fresh out of high school
Teach me a thing or two
TONY 560-9794 E10

gd/kg, hairy, 8 1/2" verbal
IRISH STUD
Mike 673-4771 24 hrs. E10

Butch blond bottom
kinky and submissive
Pager 978-7776 E10

Horse-hung 6'4" German
hairy blond crotch 821-3425 E10

Hot Hawaiian-Japanese
Great Butt! \$80. 328-5304 E10

Latest Video Releases Reviewed
on 3 screens simultaneously at
Circle J Cinema, 369 Ellis, 10 a.m.-
Midnite every day. Exclusive JO
and AF fetish films. Join the JO
action! E8

S/M SENSUALITY
—long, & slow—my specialty.
6'2", 175, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leathersex:
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, ranch.
Lord 431-0959



863-4847

People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

Friendly
Handsome
Clean-cut


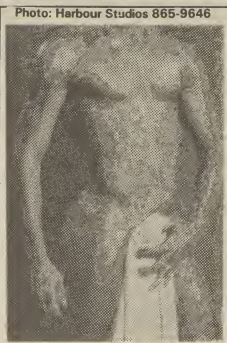


Photo: Harbour Studios 865-9646

6' 11" 175#
East Bay/12 • Out

KEVIN
510-713-2239

Photo: Harbour Studios 865-9646

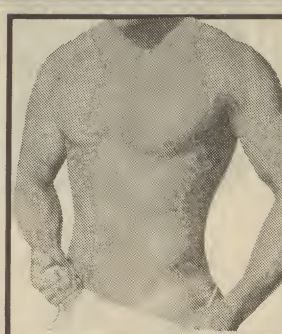


JASON 978-0144

**OBVIOUSLY
ITALIAN**

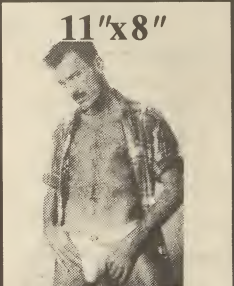


863-SEXY
FRIENDLY • HANDSOME
6' 175# 9" x 6" BRN/BLU
\$100 • MASSAGE INCLUDED



ONE
Extremely Attractive
Blonde, Blue Eyes
HOT
25, 5'10", 165 lbs.
Smooth, Hard,
Tan, Defined
Unbelievable Ass
MAN
KYLE \$80
905-6446

11"x8"



Rod Prince
Safe Sexy Top
998-6862 Pgr/vm

THE STALLION
Bpr. # 807-5690

Hot, Friendly, Bottom Boy
29 Y/O PREPPY
Smooth, defined body
Hot mouth, tight butt
Creative, sexy and smart!
\$100 Mark. Pgr. 560-3125 E10

One Tall Drink of Water
OAKIE
6'5", 170, bl/blu, 7 1/2" x 6"
\$80/out \$150 w/photo
(415) 552-7385. Bill. E15

773-9130
Tits and Nipples E10

Hot bottom, black & built
390-9973. James E10

HOT BOY TOY
Young, sexy & ready
Brian 252-1068, \$100
Callback required E11

BOY-OH-BOY!
2 blond/blue boys
smooth, friendly, tight
one/both. Bpr. (415) 607-8672 E10

773-9130
Spankings E10

QUALITY TIME
w/playful Hairy Blond, 28
Tripp (415) 708-3644 E10

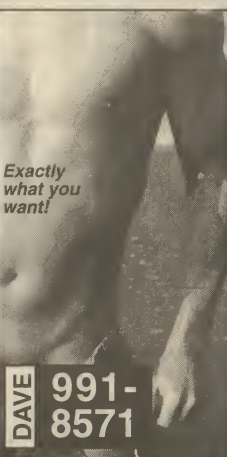
YOUNG AND BUFFED
Straight looking hunk, 23
5'11", 195 lbs., dark Italian,
hot 48" chest, 30" wst, 8" x 6"
pumped bod, cute face, very
likable, Mike. (415) 896-8001 E10

**FANTASY=REALITY
UNDER HYPNOSIS**
Alex 863-0212 E10

IRISH HUNG 9
Kicks back, gets verbal
blond, very hairy. 563-4019 E10

Hot, 19 y/o, Italian Top-boy
Hung. 978-9316. Out. Joey E10

Exactly
what you
want!



DAVE 991-8571

CIAO!
HOT ITALIAN MAN
5'10", 170#, BRN/BRN
STRONG, SOLID & SEXY
NATURALLY SMOOTH OLIVE SKIN
HONEST, THICK, UNCUT 9"
\$100, 905-4563

26 Y/O HOT BOY
Spanish/Italian In/Out
Call C.J. at 703-7164 E10

Hot Daily JO Action — 10 a.m.
to midnite. Circle J Cinema,
369 Ellis St. E8

Baby blue eyes. 292-3218 E10

21 Y.O. College Boy
Asian, friendly, willing
Call Ray in or out
Voice Mail # 560-4821 E10

26 Y/O HOT BOY
Spanish/Italian In/Out
Call C.J. at 703-7164 E10

Pager# 560-2728
Fit, tan, blond E10

17" HOT INCHES
★ Latin Stud/Hairy Irishman
★ Fantasy — 563-4019 — Call back E11

Sexy Blond
CALVIN KLEIN
Model 27 yrs. 9", thick
round buns, rock-solid
864-0788 Ryan E10

Marin-SF Hot BB Bottom, 10 am-
10 pm, \$60/80 Ted 459-4217 E11

ASIAN BOY TOY



Pager - 560-1480 - Cliff

MASTER MICHAEL
Straight Italian Model
Hunk, Extremely Hand-
some, Built and Hung,
seeks true submissives for
B&D, S&M, Discipline,
Body Worship.
Very Creative and
Demanding Master.
\$100 415-597-3853
Voice Mail-Pager

**Incredibly
HOT
Incredibly
HUNG**



PHOTO: STEVE SAVAGE

**Derek
Moore**
26, 5'9", 150#
br/br, 8 1/2 x 6
Tight smooth
gymnast build
(415) 554-0582

**HOT SEXY LATIN
BODYBUILDER**
20 years old. 5'8", 205 lbs.
47" chest, 18" arms, 28" wst.
Very cute, P.J. 560-5595 E10

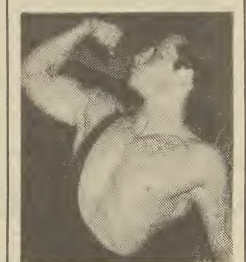
6', Brown Hair, Blue Eyes
Beautiful body, Very Attractive
High class escort.
For the VIP. Paris 750-1724 E10

Peninsula Stud Kicks Back
Hard built body-Hairy pecs
Hung thick, (408) 237-8648
Great butt—Outcalls Only E10

DISTINGUISHED GENT
Handsome hung, age 40
\$60 Out only. Dan 441-8111 E10

9X6 24 HOURS
Call 775-4771 24 hrs. E10

GENTLE TOP IN OAKLAND, 5'5", 142,
HAIRY, PHALLIC LOVERS-FR A/P, GRIA,
J/O, EXHIB. \$70/IN. CONGENIAL.
MARC (510) 444-3204



**Hot Young Italian
Body Builder**
560-0404

BIG BODYBUILDER
27, 6', 240#, 54C,
33W, 19A, 30 Thighs
No Limits, Always Ready!
Steve (408) 427-4543

**B. A. R. CLASSIFIEDS
GET RESULTS!!**
Call 415-861-5019

Want to JO at High Noon? Why
wait till the evening — Circle J
Cinema, 369 Ellis St., 10 a.m. to
Midnite daily. E8

9" x 6" Video Star/Creole Top
AUSTIN BLACK
DISCOUNTS: 11:00 AM-11:00 PM
Will Travel. 708-6300
1993 Videos Now Available E10

Superhung Thick Top. Friendly
Delivers excellent
Choking and poking. 24 hrs.
#1 IN S.F.
Craig \$80 (415) 560-9596 E10

ABSOLUTELY HOT
28, 6', 190#
INCREDIBLY
HANDSOME
BROWN HAIR
BLUE-EYED
SMOOTH, TAN
RIPPED BODY
VERY SEXY
MASCULINE
9x6 CUT
**CALL BUCK
280-0725**

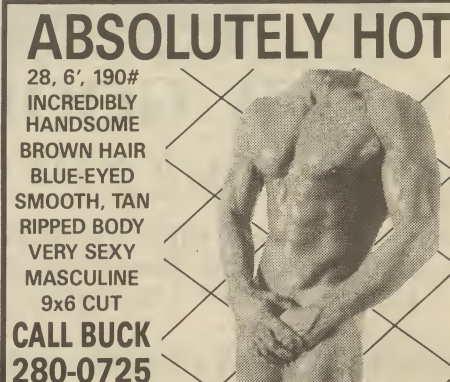
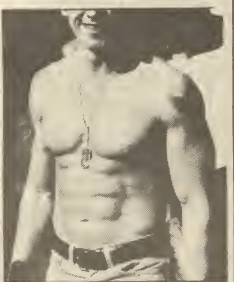


PHOTO: STEVE SAVAGE 626-2690

★ In► Out► Hot Tubs► Hotels★
Superhot, 28y/o, 5'10", 165#
UNCUT LATIN TOP
★►CARLOS◄★
★995-4798★ E10



MR. COLT 553-4157

HOT ITALIAN
22", 185, 8 1/2 x 6, 26 y/o
Waving All Bay Areas
(415) 861-6027

**DC
in'93**
APRIL 25, 1993



People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

X-LONG X-THICK TOP
HANDSOME WELL BUILT
Clean Cut
EASY GOING TOPMAN
Vince 708-0377 \$75

FEEL REAL GOOD

Handsome, hot, sensual
French/Spanish guy
Muscular body
Super ass, versatile
Call Tony 597-3613 E10

Musclehunk 29 Y/O X-Handsome

★ SAN JOSE ★

Pumped Hairy Pecs, 175, 5'10"
Hung thick. (415) 560-0034 E10

BRUTAL

No danger too real.
No thought too dark.
Ultimate limit breaker.
Connect with powerful
controlling Malo—985-7123 E10



At Your
★ **SERVICE** ★
552-8301 Alex E10

HOT HUNG TOP

26 y/o, 6'4", 8 1/2", 190#
Steve (510) 938-9160
East Bay/San Francisco E10

BAY AREA BOTTOM

25 y/o, 6'4", 180#, 8"
Handsome—smooth-and-fun!
(510) 463-8339 pgr. (415)
907-4473 SF/Eastbay-Marlin E10

HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO

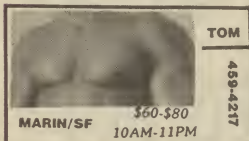
29, smooth & muscular for
striptease, J/O or massage
Alan 626-7410 E09

Here's What You Want

► SUPER HUNG ◀

► EXTRA HANDSOME ◀

College jock with defined
tight body & very versatile
Matt 550-6833 In/Out E10



FRENCH MARINE
Body Builder
225 pounds of solid
muscle
New In Town
From Paris
560-2478

Young, hot, hairy
SHARPSHOOTER
Long Distance Champion
Rob 560-4371 In & Out E10

LARGEST TOOL IN SF
TRULY 10X7
Black stud: 560-9754 E10

SEXY HOMBRE!

Friendly-goodlooking stud
Hot stud-super-endowed
thick power tool. Low hangers.
Mack 560-9596 \$80.00 E09

Rambunctious
Pro Top
Mike 821-1477 E10

HUNG LIKE A HORSE

Ital. Stallion br/br 5'8"
Fat tool-stud looks/built
Johnny (415) 708-0377 \$75 E10

Todd

27 y/o, 6', Hot bod, 9x6, Good
looking muscul butt. Pgr
739-5059 E10

TAURUS RISING

Uncut Bull Dick 739-0227 E10

Bikerstud—horsehung top!

UNCUT STUD

Horny oversexed, masculine
Anthony \$80. (415) 207-5155 E10

HOT RUSSIAN

8" uncut, 26 y/o, 5'9", 150#, \$70
All scenes. Pgr. 708-0180 E10

Like'em Young?

Teen fantasies, after-school
scenes. Cute boy,
19, 5'6", 125#, imaginative.
\$150 out. Pager# 739-8941 E10

22 y/o Blond, skinny Ruf&Tuf

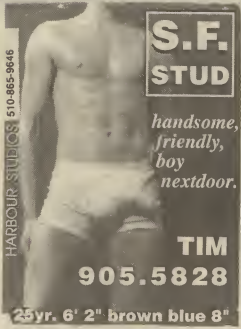
PUNK BOY 9x6

Huge cock!
Daniel 267-6153 E10

BEST BOY



RANDY 804.5818



S.F. STUD

handsome,
friendly,
boy
nextdoor.

TIM

905.5828

25yr. 6' 2" brown blue 8"

PERFECT TOOL

Body and looks to match.
Ready for a man? TOM 487-6228

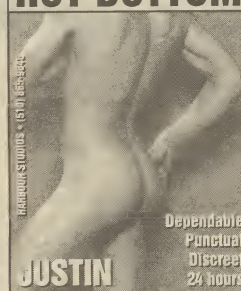
HANDSOME S. AMERICAN

6', 165 LBS., 7 1/2 UC HOT
Marco 206-0714 Pgr. 929-3820 E10

HOT MUSCULAR COLLEGE JOCK THICK 9" CUT

24 Y.O., 6'3", 220 LBS.
\$100/120 546-6997 E10

HOT BOTTOM



JUSTIN

Dependable
Punctual
Discreet
24 hours

510 **801-5773** PGR

Cute 20 y/o athl. 5'8" 145 lbs.
smooth does what U want
\$70 Call Jim 456-1799 E10

Size 10 1/2 — Sean Bpr. 809-6940

FOOT FETISH!

Bi Tall Latin top
Uncut 9 + thick
evening special 863-3089 E11

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS
Gloves, kinky, Andy, husky, 5'9",
175, must. 861-2668 sling
safe. \$60 E12

On your knees! Thick 7 1/2"!
\$50/hr./\$35 1/2 hr. Bpr. 809-6940 E10

26 y/o defined, nice
face, butt 8" x 6", 135 lbs.
5'6", 928-6393 E10

COME SEE, COME WATCH
COME TOGETHER
Circle J, 10 a.m. Daily
369 Ellis St. E8

Wild Tattooed Biker Boy

EXHIBITIONIST WS
24 HRS. CHASE 546-7825

9x6 TOP

Very handsome man
well built clean cut
big dick big balls
guaranteed hot stud
26 yr 185 6 ft br/br
\$80 in/\$100 out 24 hrs.
KURT 928-6322

MONTREAL BOY

X-HOT X-HARD FAT 9" x 7"
621-3950 E10

BLACK

EXFOOTBALL

PLAYER

Total top 5'10", 205#
What can you handle?
\$130 Call Back Required
282-9886 E10

Body and brains.

Swimmer, wt. lifter, college grad.
Passionate, Playful.
27 y/o top. Jeff 553-8804 E11

Vigorous, verbal, gdik top.
hairy, hung, ready & able.
Mike 821-1477 24 hrs. E10

YOUNG, HOT & BUFFED

Stanford stud. Smooth
hard body. 25 y/o, 5'10", 185lbs.
& hung. Pager: 780-3643 E10

Handsome, muscular 8 1/2" oral

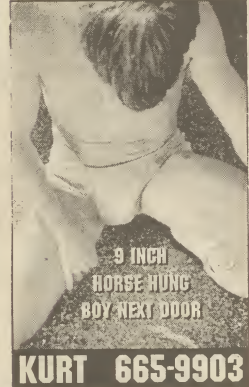
Top-bottom Rex 931-6639 E10

Tantra, S/M, hot blond stripper

top. Julian 255-6433 Out E10

Hot/Uncut/19 y/o boy

Andy 267-3984 E10



KURT 665-9903



★ **SAVE** ★
15% OFF

Making the
ultimate male
fantasy become
reality.

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Male Models
for all
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25 ★ 8" ★ Call Kris 995-4667 E10

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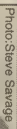
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE 415 282-0437 7PM-7AM



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Photo: RAM Studios

MODELS & ESCORTS



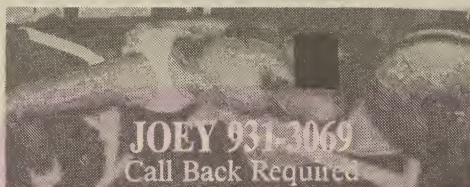
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 Sensual N. European Features - 23, 150 lbs. 6'
 Intense Bl. Eyes, Dk. Hr. Tight, Smooth Build.
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8 Tattoos

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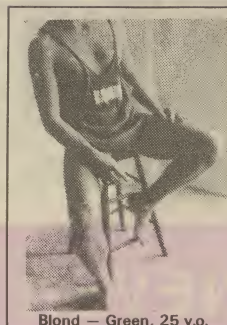
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HORSEDICK 11" X8"
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Blond — Green, 25 y.o.
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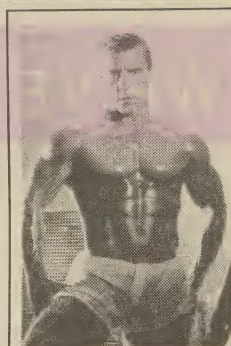
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22 YO BOTTOM
Affectionate, clever
Boyish and discreet
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handsome dark irish
hung AND hard
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hung big nuts big butt
24 hrs. CAL 431-8209

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On Sexy, hung stud likes
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23 y.o. • Verbal • Dominant
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Stops Here Stops Here Here

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Indicate
Typefaces

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BOLD ► CAN BE SET
CAPS ► IN THESE TYPEFACES
REG ► The above three lines are more

The above three lines are more expensive than the lines you are now reading, but they pay off in increased readership.

RATES


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ALL SUBSEQUENT LINES	\$3.00


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(Minimum \$10.00 charge on Visa and Master Card)

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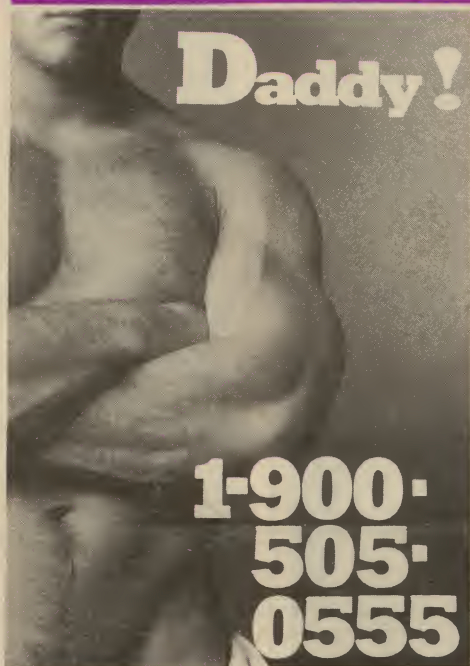
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CHEAPER
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LOCAL These special '900' numbers accessible only to Bay Area customers

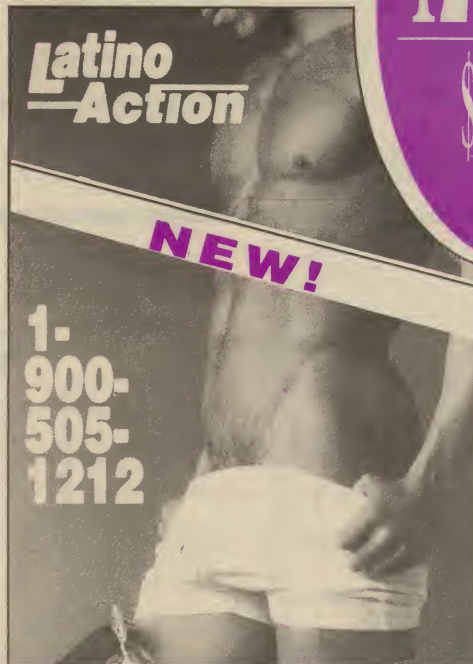
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\$1.95



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